MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

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- Whitney Houston, said . But Ms. Bhutto's rejection "The Bodyguard," found it of key sections of the propimitating art when she ball osed 20-year blueprint to get a restraining order again curb population growth, cou-a man she says is stalking in pled with another Vatican The order was issued Fritz attack on abortion, reflected against Charles Gilben the polarisation of debate at claims to be the fain of the conference.

Houston's daughter and he In three preliminary meet-harassed the singer's family ings, delegates agreed to at their church. Houston, it more than 90 per cent of the is married to singer Both plan of action. But the most Brown. It was the second

time Houston got a restraining order against him. The Hamas first was issued in 1991 after he disrupted a service at the Newark Church her family activist attends and was arrested Police were searching for Mr. Gilberg to serve him with the

order, In 'The Bodyguard, Houston plays a pop sing OCCUPIED JERUSALEM who hires a bodyguard, play (AP) — A leading activist in ed by Kevin Costner, because the Muslim militant group she is being stalked. Those Hamas was stabbed to death Weisenback. Weisenbeck, Ms. Housin in a West Bank mosque over lawyer, said Mr. Gilberg by the weekend, apparently as a stopped harassing the sum result of an internal power for a while, but began again struggle.

in April 1993. In Januar. Ismail Bedair, 27, was Mr. Gilberg sent a postern praying in the Salam mosque to Mr. Harassin the Tulkanan mosque

to Ms. Houston saying he win the Tulkarem refugee the father of her child and camp Sunday when an last week he called Ms. How assailant killed him with a ton's management company bayonet and wounded a to say he would be going inchew, said the victim's the Newark Church again brother, Yousef. Yousef Bedair accused a Mr. Weisenbeck said. fellow Hamas leader in

Man whose wife Abed, of carrying out the Abed, of carrying out the killing, and later Sunday scores of Islamic activists demolished Mr. Abn Abed's home with axes and hammers a with the other women call of Mr. Abn Abed's family with two other women call of Mr. Abn Abed's family

sight of her husband in the with two other women culd his placed an ad in the Arabic-police said. Eusebia Montal Monday and Monday a police said. Eusebia Mor language daily Al Quds on 32, told police she used! Monday, acknowledging that sharp knife to cut off both Mr. Bedair was inadvertently penis and the testicles of killed by a member of the penis and the testicles of killed by a member of the 28-year-old husbani Abn Abed clan during an 28-year-old husbani with argument that turned violent 28-year-old huspan con Abed clan during an Daogoberto Babilonio, what argument that turned violent. Daogoberto Babilonio, what argument that turned violent. The Israeli army said it was bled to death after he was aware of the killing and beout blocal press, which closely is feud. lowed the story of stend. Ecuadoran woman who di off her American hushall off her Year of her Year off her American hushand

Russia hopes for quick end to embargo on Iraq

MOSCOW (AFP) — Russia hopes that the United Nations embargo on Iraq will be "lifted soon" and wants to restore its economic relations with Baghdad to the pre-embargo level. Russian Foreign Trade Minister Oleg Davidov said Monday as quoted by ITAR-TASS news agency. He was speaking at the first meeting of a Russian-Iraqi commission on economic and trade cooperation. Iraqi Trade Minister Mohammad Saleh said Iraq cooperation. Itself Trace minister monatuman satest sate fraques considers Russia "a friend" and "is going to pay its debts to Russia after the lifting of the sanctions," which the United Nations slapped on Iraq after it invaded Kuwait in August 1990. The news agency said the commission would develop a bilateral agreement on economic and trade cooperation.



Jordan Times

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية ،الراي،

AMMAN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, RABI' ALAWAL 30, 1415

Qadhafi urges radicals to foil PLO-Israeli deal

DAMASCUS (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has urged radical Palestinian groups to wreck the PLO-Israeli peace deal, a Damascus-based radical group said on Monday. The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) said Mr. Qadhafi's tall was made during a meeting with its leader Nayef Hawatmeh in Tripoli on Sunday. Mr. Hawatmeh is in Tripoli to attend Libya's celebrations marking Mr. Qadhafi's 25 years in power. "Brother Muammar Qadhafi affirmed Libya's rejection of the Gaz-Jenicho deal and said the accord was doomed to failure because in Muammar Qadhafi affirmed Libya's rejection of the Gaza-Jericho deal and said the accord was doomed to failure because it contradicted the Palestinian people's right for self-determination," the DFLP said in a statement. "The leader of the Libyan revolution affirmed the necessity of foiling the Gaza-Jericho deal by the uprising generation and the national Palestinian forces," it added. "Qadhafi also stressed the importance of building a wide front that groups all forces and personalities who oppose the deal," it said. The DFLP belongs to a 10-member radical alliance based in the Syrian capital which has vowed to foil the deal that gave Palestinians limited self-rule in the Gaza Strip and the West gave Palestinians limited self-rule in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

ton's Victoria University of revising a deaf sign decisions for the Deaf Association. Is stead of the limp wrist system of the limp wrist system of the middle finger been rounded down to meet at tap the thumb. The sign of the sign of the thumb. The sign of t by index finger and thus touching the chin. "len abortion; Bhutto for amending which used a crooked into finger to indicate a beautiful finance for the finance financ finger to indicate a hook nose, is now made by strict conference plan of action ing" a beard at the chin to conference plan of action

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The Vatican on Monday

welcomed the U.S. statement

that compromise on abortion

tween thumb and index is ger. The old sign is CAIRO (Agencies) — One used to pull back on the extension of the world's most out-This has now changed to; back at the Vatican and Muschest, indicating the material imfundamentalists Monday tional high-buttoned "May with an electrifying defence jacket. "Japanese" is a ban and a plea to curb the world's try's shape. New Zealam sake."

Norway's Prime Minister the symbol for German. Gro Harlem Brundtland

Volume 18 Number 5707

the symbol for German. Gro Harlem Brundtland the raised index finger dept framed a key issue of the Kaiser's army, Deaf Asson on its first day, empowering ton Coordinator Anthon women as the way to slow Swindale said other country birth rates. Pakistani Prime also modifying the Minister Benazir Bhutto supwere also modifying the Minister Benazir Bhutto sup-sign languages. "It's a ported women's equality but awareness that's starting took a far more conservative happen around the deaf con view on abortion and sexual

is close. But papal spokesto think what the sim i Ms. Bhutto's decision to man Joaquin Navarro, a meaning and sometimes it attend the nine-day confermember of the Vatican delegation, reiterated the ence and buck conservative Catholic church's opposition Islamic opponents was in itto references in the draft to self a victory for the organis-"reproductive health," callrestraining order women leaders, Tansu Ciller ing the phrase implicit recognition of abortion on de-

mand. Ms. Brundtland, a physician turned politician, re-ceived sustained applause when she took on the Vatican on this issue.

"I have tried in vain," Ms. Brundtland said, "to under-stand how that term can possibly be read as promoting abortions or qualifying abortion as a means of family planning. Rarely - if ever have so many misrepresenta-

contentious issues must still tions been used to imply be resolved - reproductive meaning that was never there health and family planning in the first place.

services, reproductive rights. Unsafe abortion is a major adolescent sex education and public bealth problem in almost every corner of the U.S. Vice President Al globe, she said, and "a con-Gore said Monday "we're ference of this status and very close" to getting consenimportance should not accept sus from the participating naattempts to distort acts or tions on the subjects still in neglect the agony of millions of women who are risking dispute. But he predicted the Vatican would not accept the their lives and bealth." final document despite com-

When she called for "decriminalising abortions," the audience of more than 1,000 erupted in sustained applause. They also applauded her call for "confidential health services" for adolescents.

Ms. Bhutto was also warmly applauded when she spoke movingly of her dream of "a Pakistan, an Asia, a world where every pregnancy is planned, where every child is nurtured, loved and educated.'

Bnt Ms. Brundtland was clearly the star attraction of the day, receiving more applause than any other speak-er including Mr. Gore, U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali and Egyptian President Hosni Mnbarak.

At the heart of her hardhitting address was the need to not only talk about women's equality - but to finance women's needs until equality is reached.



U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali opens the U.N. International Conference on Popula-

tion and Development on Monday in Cairo before 3,500 delegates from 182 countries

Aden calm but uneasy after day of extremist rampage

From P.V. Vivekanand in Aden

TENSION RAN high but an uneasy calm reigned in Aden on Monday as security forces continued a crackdown on Islamic zealots on the loose trying to impose their will on a people left at the mercy of political forces with conflicting agendas after a devastating civil war.

Gunshots and explosions could be heard from some parts of Aden, a city desperately trying to adjust to the realities of the dramatic changes brought in by the victory of the federal government in Sanaa in the two-month civil conflict that ended on July 7.

Security forces maintained a tight vigil on all entry points into the city of 400,000, checking every vehicle and often confiscating weapons. But there was oo sign of the pitched battles of the weekend following the destruction to holy shrines that Adenis revered but deemed blasphemous by Islamic radicals.

Vehicles at entry points

into the city stretched kilometres into the main highways as soldiers in different uniforms searched

Within the city, dozens were reportedly arrested. but there bas been no official account of the security situation except that calm had returned to Aden. The official toll during

the battles in the Crater district of Aden after extremists of the Jihad group disowned by the mainstream Al Islah party but believed to be linked with Al Islah was seven dead and eight injured, including security men. Residents say the toll was much higher.

A mosque in the beart of Crater, housing the re-mains of Aidarous, a 15th century imam widely respected as a saint, was ransacked on Friday by Jihad members, who also destroved tombs in a nearby cemetery and removed headstones.

Their argument, according to residents, was that headstones bearing names are blasphemous. Armed residents resisted

suspects' names and any

The daily Davar newspaper said the investigation was

focused on 10 young people

linked to the Kahane Chai

movement. Press reports said

the group emerged from the

worshippers at Joseph's tomb

in Nablus, the only active

Jewish site in the northern

other details.

the gunmen and battles ensued in the area before security forces moved in and the clashes spread. It was only later in the evening that some semblance of

order was restored. The Jihad group, with support from infiltrators of the Socialist Party, was be-hind the trouble," said Abdul Karim Iryani, the planning minister in the Sanaa government. "Things are well under

control.' But for any residents of this once-freewheeling. liberal port city which thrived under British rule that ended in 1967, the incident was another move by Islamic hardliners 10 impose their will on Aden and the entire south of the country through force.

Well-organised Al Islah members bave already banned alcohol, imposed strict Islamic dress codes, and are going around enforcing their own code of conduct in line with what they see acceptable in Islam.

Women are not allowed to go out after sunset without a male relative as escort: a few incidents have already been reported of Islab zealots demanding that men and women mov ing together prove their relnonship, they have to be either married or be of the

same family. For the moment, the central government in Sanaa, which includes Islah members, appears to be giving rope to Islah radicals in Aden, given that the dominanı party of President Ali Abdullah Saleh, is in the throes of forming a new

government.

Al Islah threw its weight behind Mr. Saleh's party during the north-south civil war demanding an equal share of power in the new government.

"The civil war has left a political vacuum in Aden and elsewhere in the south," said Mr. Aulaqi Hussein, a British-trained

"As long as the political vacuum is not filled, there will be more violent incidents," warned Mr. Aulaqi. "The people of Aden are hoping for security, stability and a better life..."

An Nahar reappears

without

editor Anani OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — The East Jerusalem

newspaper An Nahar reappeared Monday with an oath of support for the Palestinian cause more than a month after the Palestinian authority closed it down for pro-Jordanian sentiments. "An Nahar is back after 36

days in a new format," the daily said in an editorial. "We are a Palestinian newspaper down to the bone and Arab to the marrow.

"Our people are in a new period of building an inde-pendent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as capital under the leadership of the

The authority shut the dai-ly at the end of July after an Israeli-Jordanian declaration which recognised Jordan's special role in looking after Muslim sites in Jerusalem.

"We consider the ban on An Nahar as a cloud in summer which has gone and the reason for the ban has gone." the editorial said. The newspaper announced

on the front page that joint owner and editor in chief Issam Al Anani no longer had any association with the daily. He was widely seen as a pro-Jordanian figure. It was the first clampdown

on the Arabic press since autonomy was launched in the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho on May 4 and provoked a storm of complaint. PLO Chairman Yasser

Arafat's authority in Gaza said An Nahar pursued a line "harmful to Palestinian national interests." Mr. Arafat recently told

Palestinian journalists that Arab regimes did not allow the PLO to run a newspaper in their countries and there was no reason why Jordan should have a mouthpiece

An Nahar claimed a circulation of between 12,000 and 15,000 before the ban. but the true figure was believed to be about half that.

Papal envoy meets Arafat

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AFP) — PLO chief Yasser Arafat met Monday with an ambassador from the Vatican three days after Pope John Paul-II said official relations -with the Palestinian were

being readied. Monsignor Andrea Cordero Lanza di Montezemolo, the Vatican's ambassador to Israel, told reporters he also represented the Pope in Jerusalem and Palestine."

The Pope said in the Vatican City on Saturday that Holy See officials were "currently preparing the opening of official relations with the representatives of the Palesti-

nian people."
Mr. Arafat told the envoy: We are proud of the strong relations between us and His

Holiness the Pope. "I had meenings many times (with him) and we can't forget this statement which had been declared by his holiness... concerning build-

Palestinian National Author-

I sent special greetings from my heart to his holiness for this strong statement."

Mr. Arafal gave the envoy a letter for the ponniff to the

envoy who voiced the Pope's wish to visit the Holy Land. The Pope said he hoped the establishment of official ties would "create a more fertile dialogue for all parties, and also open up for the Roman Catholic communities of the Middle East the prospect of a peaceful fu-

The PLO has a representative office in Rome which also covers the Vancan.

The Vatican normalised relations with Israel last December and exchanged ambassadors in June.

Israel has acknowledged the Vatican's stance on international guarantees for the future of Jerusalem, which both Israel and the Palestiing special relations with nians claim as capital.

Mubarak says Arab boycott of Israel ignored

CAIRO (AFP) — The Arab over public opinion in their boycott of Israel is ignored on countries," he said. the ground even though it is maintained by the Arab League, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has said.

"The Arab boycott of Israel practically doesn't exist," Mr. Mubarak said in an interview with a Saudi Arabian newspaper published Monday.

"Even though the (Arab League) decision is still in force, companies who do not boycott Israel are there in one form or another in Arab

countries. would simply be a formal measure," he added, while warning that "the boycott will not be lifted until all peace efforts are complete.'

"We are not against rescinding the (boycott) decision, but we are taking other aspects of the situation into consideration," he said, referring to stalled Israeli-Syrian talks.

Mr. Mubarak reiterated that he hoped to see a peace accord between Israel and Syria by the end of the year. "Mutual trust between the two countries is growing, but both sides need time to win

U.S. President Bill Clinton last month again appealed to Arab countries to lift the economic boycott of Israel.

But Arab officials say the issue will not be raised in the next meeting of foreign ministers from Arab League states, scheduled for Sept. 14

However a statement from the Arab League Sunday said progress in the economic boycott would be discussed at

the meeting. The dispute between Jorthe future of Jerusalem will

also be on the agenda, the statement said.

Palestinians have objected to an Israeli-Jordanian peace declaration, signed in Washington on July 25, which recognised Jordan's historic role in administering Muslim shrines in the holy

Other agenda items, agreed by League representatives Sunday, include "occupied Jordanian territories, water rights, and the estabzone in the Middle East.

Rabin tells army not to meddle in politics

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israeli stuck to his view that President Anwar Sadat was look-Rabin put the army back in its place on Monday after military top brass contra-

dicted his peace policy.

The decision is made by the elected government."
Mr. Rabin told the Jerusalem Post in an interview to mark the Jewish new year which started Monday evening.

The military can take a position. It is only the political level that can reconcile the military position and what the political level decides it is ready to pay for peace.

"Sometimes you accept the military judgement. Some-Military chief of staff

Lieutenant General Ehud Barak caused a a storm when he declared recently that even in peace-time Israel should keep the Golan Heights.
Mr. Rabin is negotiating

with Syria the return of at least part if not all of the strategic plateau captured in the 1967 Middle East war. Gen. Barak's comments

were criticised as political by several ministers at Sunday's cabinet meeting.

And then Israel's northern commander Major General Yitzhak Mordechai warned Syria's role in the peace process might be a strategic de-

Mr. Rabin cited two major examples of not taking army advice when he was previous-

ly prime minister. In early 1977, the army insisted Egypt was turning to war, but Mr. Rabin said he ing for peace. And in 1974, the army and

air force declared it a high probability that Syria would attack at the end of the first mandate of U.N. peacekeepers on the Golan. The military demanded mobilisation of between 50,000 and 70,000 Mr. Rabin told the Post he

did not believe it and mobilised only 4,000-5,000 troops. Gen. Barak, who is reuring, issued a statement by way of clarification on Monday saying: "The Israeli army will confinue to adapt to the nation's changing military needs in accordance with government decisions."

On Syria, Mr. Rabin suggested Israel would be prepared to accept the Syrian military presence in Lebanon under a peace treaty. "Under the present situa-

tion in Lebanon, I don't know if any government in Beirut can really cope with terrorism in the south without Syrian backing," he said. The Post reported that Mr.

Rabin will appoint deputy chief of staff major General Amnon Shahak, who has led autonomy negotiations with the Palestinians, to the top military post after the new year holidays.

to enter politics and join the Labour Party following his retiremeni. Meanwhile, President Ezer

Gen. Barak was expected

Weizman on Sunday told the government to be patient in its peace talks with Syria.

Circus tiger leaps

By Allyn Fisher The Associated Press

Tulkarem, Nasser Abu

from ring, kills bol TEL AVIV — Israeli security forces arrested a military officer and at least four other people on suspicion of organising a Jewish terror number of carcusting a six and began eating a six and began eating a six and began eating a six and old boy who had been walk palestinians, officials and old boy who had been walk press reports said Monday. The shown in an old press reports said Monday. The arrested would be the first armed Jewish group newspaper reported on the attention of emerge since Israel cracked father was seriously in the attack Friday at the radbarpur about Feb. 25 Hebron mosque mas-

to the attack Friday al groups immediately after the radbarpur. about Feb. 25 Hebron mosque massaire. Security forces jailed Lt. Oren Edn., 23, and at least four other spectators ran in protection of the tiger was only and the tiger was only and the tiger was only and the difficulty, the daily said difficulty, the daily said difficulty, the daily said difficulty and the tiger was only an

Bank town of Hebron, Israeli publication of the remaining overed the beginnings of a media reported.

Lt. Edri, a deputy company commander about to start a course for infantry commanders, was suspected of trying to procure weapons for attacks against Arabs. Army radio said that Lt. Edri had served time in a military prison a few years ago for vandalising Arab property in the Gaza Strip.

Lt. Edni's father said the family had lived in Kiryat Arba for 24 years but rejected extremism.

"If I knew my son did something like this, I would support him being punished," Yitzhak Edri said on army radio "but I'm sure he didn't."

The court issued a gag order on the case, barring

West Bank city of 110,000 Palestinians. The group was apparently organising to carry out revenge attacks against Palestinians and more arrests are

expected. Dedi Zucker, chairman of parliament's law and constitution committee, said in an interview he lacked the details of all the arrests, but police believed they had uncJewish terrorist underground "This is a theory, that this

was the start of the organising of subversive actions" against the September 1993 Israel-PLO accord, Mr. Zucker told the Associated Press. The agreement led to Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza Strip and Wesi Bank jown of Jericho last May.

He said that the group had apparently not waged any

Maj. Gen. Ilan Biran. commander of the Israeli army in the West Bank, said they were extremist Jews there but rejected parallels between the group and the Jewish underground that carried out a series of violent artacks against Arabs a de-

"Among the Jewish population there are marginal elements who are making their own laws and we have to deal with them according to the principles of the law, Gen. Biran said on army

> quoted as saying the army had intelligence about plans by both Jewish and Arab extremists to stage artacks at the Tomb of the Patriarchs once it reopens. Israel has kept the shrine

holy to both Muslims and

closed since Feb. 25.

Earlier Gen. Biran was

Jews shut since the massacre while doing a security over-haul. It is due to reopen on Oct. 12 for a 10-day trial run. The tomb, holy to both Jews and Muslims, has been

ia's military-backed government and the opposition opened here on Monday amid hopes that Muslim fundamentalist leaders would join the talks aimed at ending radical Islamic insurgency.

The talks, chaired by Presi-

dent Liamine Zeroual, bring government representatives together with five moderate opposition groups who re-cently demanded that the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) be allowed to iake part. They follow a series of

meetings between the authorities and FIS leaders, including talks last Tuesday be-tween General Mohammad Betchine, a senior aide to Mr. Zeroual, and the presid vice-president of the outlawed front. Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj, in their military prison in Blida. informed

Senior members of the FIS demanded on Sunday that the ban on their movement be lifted and their jailed col leagues freed if their movement is to join peace negotia-

The talks in Blida focussed on a possible ceasefire hetween the security forces and armed fundamentalisis after two-and-a-half years of in-surgency which has claimed more than 3,000 lives. Press reports said Mr. Madani has offered a conditional "truce."

But armed FIS supporters are at odds with the most hardline extremist movement, the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), which refuses to negotiate and has targeried foreigners, academics. teachers and schools as part of its campaign against the authorities.

The FIS was banned in March 1992, two months after the army intervened in January 1992 to bring about the cancellation of the second

round of independent Alger-



ia's first free general election. which it was poised to win. State radio reported that the five parties to the talks gave the government a 14point memorandum calling such as the release of Islamic detainees and the raising of the state of emergency imposed in February 1992.

Three parties allied in a 'democratic movement" are boyconing the talks, whose aim is to work out the conditions necessary for free electins after the transition period, which was originally due to last three years from Mr. Zeroual's appointment in January.

The Socialist Forces Front (FFS) of Hocine Ait Ahmed declared that no "new elements" had emerged to encourage it to the negotiating table, while the Rally for Culture and Democracy (RCD) party of Said Sadi and Ettahaddi, the former communist party, are opposed to any dealings with fundamentalists and have said politics and religion should not be mixed up.

Efforts to secure a ceasefire have so far run up against vehement opposition from the GIA, which on Monday said high schools and universities should remain closed or risk attack and set conditions for opening other schools when the new academic year begins on Saturday.

A GIA tract said that tui-

tion could resume for chil-dren aged between six and 15 - provided that all women teachers and girls over the age of puberty wore the Islamic veil, that mixed classes are abolished, that girls re-ceive no physical education and that all music teaching

Schoolgirls not wearing the veil have already been gunned down in the streets and teachers shot in front of their

Some 400 primary and secondary schools have already been burned or bombed since June, but the government said several of them have been repaired to take pupils from Sept. 10. Higher Education Minister Boubakeur Benbouzid has announced that 1,500 security personnel will be recruited to guard universities. Taking part in the talks are

the former sole ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), former President Ahmed Ben Bella's Movement for Democracy in Algeria (MDA), the Algerian Renewal Party (PRA) and two moderate Islamic parties.

French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said that attempts to bring about poli-tical dialogue in Algeria were going "in the right direction" even if some parties "still refuse to take part."

In an interview published hy Monday's edition of the daily Le Monde, Mr. Juppe added that "one may hope, in view notably of certain rifts in the Muslim front, that one day tnese ariempts will lead to something."

He was apparently refer-ring to Muslims putting pressure on the radicals to lay down their arms and negotiate with the authorines.

Mr. Juppe said that it was up to "the Algerian authorities to say within what limits and with whom dialogue can be conducted and up to the different Algerian political



Brundtland arrives at the International Conference on Population and Development Monday in Cairo, where 3,500 delegates from 182 photo)

to slow population growth and development in Third World countries (see story page 1) (AFP

Rabbani hopes for peace talks, but says no to ex-communists

KABUL (AFP) — President Burhanuddin Rabhani's administration hopes to negotiate a settlement to Afghanistan's years-long conflict but remains adamant that ex-communist factions be excluded from any talks. an official spokesman said Monday.

Recent peace talks in Islamabad sponsored by U.N. special envoy Mahmud Mestiri foundered because Mr. Rahhani refused to send representatives to meet with an opposition delegation that included one-time communists loyal to Uzhek militia boss General Abdul Rashid Dos-

'We don't think Mahmud Mestiri received a sound consultation about the inclusion of Dostam in the peace negouations." said Mr. Rahhani's press spokesman Abdul Aziz

"With the exception of one or two factions, no Afghan leader has announced a willingness to talk with Dos-Mr. Morad said.

Mr. Morad charged that Hezb-i-Islami faction leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar — a military ally of Gen. Dostam was responsible for the failure of the latest United

Nations initiative by insisting on the inclusion of the Uzbek Mr. Morad expressed the Kabul administration's sup-

port for U.N. participation in trying to solve the Afghan crisis, but repeated that peace talks should not be neld outside the country. He said he backed a plan

for the Loya Jirga, or national gathering of peoples' representanves, to meet next month in order to settle the dispute over the country's leadership. Mr. Morad also said the state was working on a new peace proposal to present to the United Nations.

Meanwhile, fighting continued for the third consecutive day south of Kabul near Pul-i-Alam, capital of Logar province, where Hezb-i-Islami fighters are attempting to dis-lodge Mr. Rabbani's Jamiat-i-Islami faction. Fighting has raged since a

coalition of Muslim forces ousted the country's communist government, but then broke up into a kaleidoscope of factions attempting to seize power. A heavy mid-afternoon

rocket bombardment broke the relative calm of the capital Monday, but it was not immediately clear if any side had started an infantry offen-

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER JOINE NE Islamic Jihad claim killing of Israeli solde

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The Islamic Jihad group said in a leastlet on Monday that its guerrillas killed an Israeli solider in the Gaza Strip as part of a "holy struggle to liberate Pales-

Gunmen in a moving car killed the soldier and wounded two in the strip on Sunday near Jewish settlements where Israelis still patrol under a May accord handing over most of Gaza to Palesti-

On Sunday, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's special adviser on terrorism warned Israelis that guerrillas could strike at home or abroad to mark the Jewish new year holiday that started Monday

"The holy straggling mic forces declares rebility for the dam which was carried automatic weap unit of Martyr Harb against a for the infidel Zio

This operation reality of our struggle and our blood and many the land of Pales ated from the d

all of its guerrillas safely to base.

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sudents which provided as their Israel urges Palestinian to counter Islamists Education minis thool vocation.

TEL AVIV (AFP) --- Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Monday issued his sternest warning yet to the Palestinians to tackle terrorism or risk derailing the peace pro-

"I am beginning to feel that they (the Palestinian Authority) are going too far," he told state radio after the murder of an Israeli army corporal and wounding of two other soldiers in a Gaza Strip ambusb.

"I will not say any more," he added ominously in a Jew-ish new year address on state

"I am not in the habit of making threats, but we insist, if the authority does not change its way of dealing with terrorism... it will be very hard to go on. Mr. Rabin explained he

was not "talking about a total halt" to terror.

"We are still demanding that the Palestinian Authority takes action against the terrorist movements, namely Hamas and Islamic Jihad, who openly call for the pursuit of terrorism against Israelis with the avowed intention of damaging or balt-

ing the (peace) process the Palestinians." He recalled Israel's tradition request again Islamic fundamentalis pects who took refuge self-rule Gaza Strip after murder of two Israel Ramia, near Tel Avir

Aug. 26. "We have had no a to our request concerning two men who carried ou attack in Ramia. I canno they have done some about this. We have to the Palestinians to fulfill commitments," Mr. R

The fundamentalist led Jihad claimed respons for killing an Israeli ; corporal late Sunday wounding two other sold in an ambush which lest a concur. Palestinians hurt. Israeli chief of staff Lie

nant General Ehud Ba also urged the Palestin

"Israel expects the Fac nian leadership and police fulfill their part in guar teeing Israeli security so t we can move forward. the peace process," he

By William MacLean Reuter

KUWAIT - Kuwait, demanding former occupier Iraq recognise it as a sovereign state, has launched a fresh diplomatic offensive to counter an Baghdad for the lifting of crippling Gulf war sanc-

The tiny oil-exporter has sent envoys to tell the world its large neighbour has yet to recognise the state it occupied in 1990-91 or free hundreds of Kuwaitis it allegedly holds.

"A Muslim should never be bitten twice from the same den." Information Minister Sheikh Saud Al Sabah was quoted as saying hy the London-based Al Wasat magazine. "We were stung so many times we should remain vigilant."

Diplomats from both countries bave moved into top gear ahead of a U.N. Security Council regular 60-day review in mid-September of Iragi compliance with the curbs preventing the resumption of vital oil exports and normal trade.

Iraq last month stepped up efforts to end the four years of economic and polirical isolation which followed the August 1990 invasion and subsequent

Kuwait counters Iraqi campaign on sanctions

U.S.-led campaign to liberate Kuwait. It sent officials to lobhy Russia, France. Pakistan, Indonesia and Morocco among other

Kuwaiti foreign ministry undersecretary Suleiman Al Shaheen this week starts a tour of Egypt, China and Security Council president New Zealand with messages from Foreign Minister Sheikh Sahah Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

"Wherever the Iraqis go we will follow," said a Kuwaiti official. "You will see us turning up when they have left, to explain the justness of our policy." Sheikb Salem Al Sabah.

who heads a search for Kuwait's Gulf war missing, will attend a meeting in Geneva on Tuesday of a multinational committee overseeing the release of Kuwait says Iraq still

holds 600 Kuwaitis and

third country nationals including Saudis, Iranians, Egyptians, Syrians, Indians and Lebanese detained during the occupation.

Iraq has long denied it holds any Kuwaitis. But on July 1 in a meet-

ing of the committee Iraqi officials promised to probe the missing Kuwaitis' fate and they may make a statement on the subject at Tuesday's meeting.

Iraq has refused to recognise the border or give explicit and authoritative recognition of Kuwaiti sovereignty. But it has hinted it may issue a statement on those questions ahead of the mid-September review.

Kuwait insists any recognition he made by a top Iraqi official and published in the Iraqi government gazerie. Iraq sbould also submit the statement to the U.N. Security Council as a

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Shmeisani pharmacy

ment, Kuwaiti officials say. Kuwait says even if Iraq meets all international demands, it will never be trustworthy and points as an example to passages in Iraqi school books describing Kuwait as Iraqi land.

permanent U.N. docu-

Baghdad has made progress complying with Gulf war resolutions that called for it to scrap its weapons of mass destruction and for long-term monitoring to ensure it does not reacquire forbidden arms.

But most council members insist that before sanctions can be lifted, Baghdad must also unequivocally recognise the sovereignty of Kuwait and its U.N.demarcated horders.

There is virtually no chance of an easing of sanctions at the September review, but some council members might want to issue statement commending Baghdad for complying with some resolutions.

There is speculation that the council might go further and say that arrangements for long term monitoring of Iraqi facilities with a military potential were in place and that a trial period lasting six months or possibly longer could begin.

Yemen's last Jews torn between staying home or emigrating

By Katherine Roth Agence France Presse

SAADA, Yemen - Yemen's dwindling group of Jews is torn hetween staying in their Islamic homeland or accepting offers to emigrate to Israel or elsewhere.

Nowhere is their dilemma more evident than in Saada. a mountain town near the border with Saudi Arabia where a oncethriving Jewish community has shrunk to several dozen

Jews here say they now number fewer than 300 in the whole of Yemen, though authorities put the figure at 2,000. The few who remain live mostly in the north but say the pressure to leave is strong.

In early August, Israel said negotiations were underway with Yemen to allow the last few Jews to Jeave.

More than 60,000 have gone to Israel since its creation in 1948. "We still have enough

people for the minimum of ten necessary to perform Saturday services, but that might not be true for long."

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

lamented Moshe Khobani, one of Saada's two rabbis.

gue in Saada, 245 kilometres north of Sanaa. and the only Hehrew school here war forced to close because there were not enough Jewish students to attend.

Most Yemeni Jews are taught Hebrew and other subjects at home by their parents and religious Iraditions are passed down from generation to generation.

At first glance, nothing separates Mr. Khobani from other Yemenis. Yemeni Jews dress as Muslims except they don't have the right to wear the Jamhia, a curved dagger. Few wear Jewish

headgear, preferring chequered headscarfs that resemble the Arab kuffieh. Yemeni Jews are known for their skilled silver work. but as the community disappears so do the arts for which it has long been

Six yeas ago there were more than 100 Jewish silver craftsmen in Saada. Today Mr. Khobani is one of fewer than 20 remaining sil-

famous.

"Many families are leaving and that makes it hard on the few of us who remain. If everyone else leaves we'll finally he obliged to go too," Mr. Khobani said as he crafted silver pieces in his work-

Shop. Yemeni Jews say they are offered money, education and job opportunities from international Jewish organisations vying for their attention if they agree to go abroad. Yousef Soleiman Habib,

another Jew from Saada, said four families went to the United States recently under the sponsorship of a New York-based Jewish group with close ties to the Israeli government. Members of the U.S.

group staying at a small hotel in Sanaa refused to comment on their mission or give the official name of their organisation. Some 32 other Yemeni

Jews. mainly youths, left the country with the help of an Ashkenazi, or central European, Jewish organisation that is also based in New York. "I spent a month in New

York eight mont nazis, said Mr. Ha whose grandparents

to Israel three years
"But my home-is
and I'm staying in Yen
Yousef Zareb, 40, san too would remain though many of bis relate had emigrated, "I'm Yes ni. Where do you want to go? I have never end been south of Sanaa,"

to Youn Fawar thul thanarn beginning bate Because the Jewish on the conference held in Paris into were munity has become the heradonal trismpec tommorres HA: small, some members be converted to Islam in on to marry. One of N Habib's sisters has mani a Muslim tribesman.

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Home News

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V (AFP) — Prime Yrtzhak Rabin on ssued his sternest er to the Palestiackle terrorism or ing the peace pro-

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SECTION.

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radition request slamic fundamentaMMAN (Petra) — The self-rule Gaza Supparing a comprehensive Ramla, near Id vocational and technical providing training to young men and women in trades required by local and other

Arah laboor markets. Aug. 26. training at government to our request whether the commendation of the commend Since the start of the programmes, the ministry has trained more than 100,000 to our request obsolutions and recommenda-two men who carrions of a 1987 conference attack in Ramia leaimed at overhaoling the they have done educational system in Jordan, about this. We be all Nasrallah, head of the the Palestinians of ministry's Vocational Depart-commitments." Ement, announced Monday, said. students through 230 vocational centres, he said adding that the ministry currently employs 3,000 instructors to provide the training.

The vocational schools produce various items which are sold to the public earning the JD 400,000 annually. The revenues are sent to the state treasury, added Mr. Nasral-

At the ootset of the ceremony, Education Minister Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh said

he was pursuing efforts with the Council of Ministers to improve the pay and living conditions of teachers.

He said he hoped that the ministry's hudget next year would provide allocations to help achieve this goal.

At the ceremony it was announced that Irbid Governorate won the first prize for organising the best exhibition of items produced by its vocational centres.

The ministry and organised a compeptition for its vocational centres training which instruct students in industrial, agricultural, nursing, hotel management, domestic sciences and other fields.



to go? I have go; ter of Youth Fawaz Abul Ghanam highlights been south of 522 discussions be took read to the same highlights ni. Where do voo? discussions he took part in at a meeting of an minister following his return. A total of 3,427 Olympic conference held in Paris last week. people took part in the six-day meeting (Petra Because the Jest' The International Olympic Committee (IOC) munity has beer

discussed at its centennial conference several issues related the Olympic movement, said the

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

House speaker holds talks in Beirut University students open camp event

BEIRUT (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower met bere with his Lebanese counterpart Nabih Berri. Discussion between the two parliamentarians covered the peace process and Jordanian-Lebanese parliamentary coopcratioo. Mr. Masri is on a several-day visit to the Lebanese capital.

CAA chief to head for Oman for talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Ahmad Jweiber, the chief of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) leaves for Oman Tuesday at the head of a delegation on a several-day visit. Mr. Jweiber is to hold talks with the Omani Civil Aviation Authority on promoting Jordanian-Omani cooperation in air transport.

KARAK (Petra) — A total of 160 students House of Parliament Taher Al Masri Monday from Jordaniao universities opened a 10-day camp activities event on the grounds of the Karak Government Community College. The event, organised by the Ministry of Youth, is designed to give the young people an oppor-tunity to contribute to voluntary service in their communities, according to Majed Queishat, the ministry secretary general.

Italian group invites Jordanians to economic meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Chamber of Industry has received an invitation addressed to Jordanian businesspersons to take part in an economic conference to be held in the Italian city of Turino next month.

WHAT'S GOING ON

SONG FESTIVAL

Children's song festival at the Royal Culturai Centre at 5:00 p.m.

ANNUAL CONCERT

Annual concert displaying Circassian folklore entitled "The Last Knight" by Al Jeel Al Jadid Chub at the club's premises, Jabel Amman, 7th Circle at 8:30 p.m.

NEWS

ABC News Highlights and MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour at the American Cen-

ter at 5:00 p.m. **EXHIBITIONS**

Exhibition of oil paintings by Iraqi artists Sa'd Al Ta'i, Talal Issa and Mahdi Al Assadi at Al 'Ain Art Gallery (Tel. 644451). Exhibition of photographs on nature and environment at the Royal Society for the

Protection of Nature. x Exhibition of Palestinian heritage at the Vocational Association Complex, Shmeisa-

* Exhibition of household items at the Amman International Motor Exhibition, Airport Road (Tel 827408).

★ Exhibition of paintings by selected Iraql artists at Alia Art Gallery (Tel. 639303). Exhibition of Jordanian-made commodities at the International Exhibition Centre,

University Road (Tel. 847113). * "The Diness Exhibit" - beginnings of photography in Jerusalem and the Holy Land at the American Center exhibition

☆ Exhibition of paintings entitled "Fantazia II" (depicting Islamic style) by Iraqi artist Widad Orfali ar Orfali Art Gailery, Umm Utheina (Tel. 826932).

Exhibition entitled "Time-2 Space 1" by Samia Zarou at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jab-al Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists

Communications ministry approves new phone line application procedures

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Minister of Post and Communications Hashem Dabbas has recently approved new procedures that were submitted by the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) to ease the application process for new telephone lines.

According to officials at the TCC, one of the main changes is that the family book is oo looger the sole proof of identity, and now individuals applying for a telephone line can either present a passport or family

Also, they said, individuals are no longer ohliged to appear at the main TCC office in Jabal Amman to pick up their approval certificates. Instead, the officials said, applicants can proceed to the nearest TCC office to obtain the document and finish the procedures.

According to the officials, the new procedure would also serve people in remote areas hy facilitating their application process in one department. In addition, they said, it

is no longer necessary for individuals to come in person to apply for a telephone line, rather he/she can authorise a family member to file their apsaid that a trade licence was no longer needed as proof to obtain a commercial telephone.

According to Abdul Hamid Hiari, director of the Procurement Department at the Ministry of Post and Communications, new telephone directories are expected to be available soon.

He told the Jordan Times Monday that the department is seeking the best offer for the publication and printing of the direc-

Mr. Hiari said that they are looking for a company that would meet their conselected to print the direc-tories will be responsible for distributing them as

He added that the TCC wants to give the copyright of the directory to the company that wins the publishing contract.

In 1993, a TCC tele-phone directory was printed, but it was not distributed because the corporation deemed that the printed work did not meet the specific regulations and requirements of the TCC. Mr. Hiari said.

He added that preference would be given to local publishers for the printing of the directory.



Hashem Dabbas

Minister outlines plans to upgrade transportation sector

AMMAN (Petra) - The ministry of transport is studying the feasibility of linking Jordan with oeighhouring Arab states via a railway oetwork with Syria and Iraq as its first destination, according to Transportation Minister

From Syria, the proposed railway could later be extended to European countries, said the minister Mon-

He said that although these projects are very costly, they are strategic ally important in the transportation of goods and travellers to and from

"We are undertaking this study because we realise that Jordan could benefit from the railway service since it enjoys a strategically important ceotral location in the regioo," added the minister.

The ministry is also planoing to develop the railway stretching from the phosphate mines at Hassa and Abiad in southern Jordan to include a new railroad linking the Shidieh mines with Aqaba where the phosphate is loaded ooto ships, said Mr. Kawar,____

The Hijaz Railway, huilt in 1902, will also be reactivated to serve the tourism sector,

Discussing overland transportation in Jordan, Mr. Kawar said the present system is unacceptable and un-

Jordan boasts 400 hus com-

A diesel-powered locomotive leads passenger cars along the route of the Hijaz Railway in eastern Amman. The Hijaz Railway was built at the turn of panies but these are unable to Jordan lack bus service, and

meet publie transportatioo needs, oor is there an efficicot system to conotrol these companies' operations, be complained.

Noting that many areas of

(File photo) The Mioistry of Transthat in many cases the ex-

isting companies' interests there is an urgent need to recognise the public trans-

the century to facilitate the travel of pilgrims between Damascus and the holy cities of Mecca and Medina

portation, be said, is enlisting qualified persons to study bauling the system.

Referring to maritime transport, the minister said

Jordan intent is making Agaba the main port in the Red Sea zonc, capable of receiving and handling various types of goods shipped east of the Suez, to the Far East and to the South African

'For the sake of educating children', Jordan to host first children's song festival

By Angham Tamimi Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - The First Jordanian Festival of Children's Song, organised by the Mioistry of Culture, will be opeoed at the Royal Cultural Centre Tuesday eveniog "to throw light on and to discover local creativity in order to improve it for the sake of educating children," ministry Secretary General Mohammad Amairch announced Monday.

The festival was scheduled to be held last year, said Mr. Amaireh at a press conference, but the written texts presented to the higher committee were unsatisfactory. All Jordanian gov-ernorates introduced lowlevel texts, he said. So, "we decided to delay the festival one year," Mr. Amaireh said.

"Thirty texts were selected for this year's festival out of the 130 presented, although we are not completely satisfied with this best," said Mr. Amaireh. "I can say I feel 70% happy with them, but it sounds illogical to delay the festival another year. So, we established a hasis, started the first step, and bope further steps will come next."

He explained that songs submitted should meet several conditions to be selected.

The song should deal with national, educational, social or cultural topics, should be written in simple standard Arabic, should take less than three minutes to be sung, and should not be previously published or broadcast elsewhere.
The "crisis" in producing

creative texts can be easily observed in adult theatre throughout the Arab World, said Mr. Amaireh.

Poetry, he added, is no exception. No doubt that children's songs suffer as well, according to Mr. Amaireh.

All the selected songs and scores for Tuesday's festival have been collected in a booklet that will be distributed to the atten-The festival, according to

Mr. Amaireh, was born to achieve several targets, such as, to enrich the child's education with new songs, to encourage writers and composers to produce works for children and to encourage using simple standard Arabic in children's books.

Colloquial Egyptian may be acceptable for children's songs, according to Mr. quial Jordanian. So, standard Arabie solves the problem, he maintained.

Besides, "singing standard Arab songs is a new method of teaching children their native language. and to help them love it. We should not look down to children's abilities, because any creative work springs from them," said Mr. Amaireb.

A variety of activities will be presented during the four-day festival including song performances at the RCC's theatre and a symposium at the conference auditorium. Three Arab music

piooeers will participate in the symposium including renowned Iraqi musician Munir Bashir, the secretary general of the Arab Academy of Music of the Arab League, Egyptian Retiba Hafni, the art consultant of the Cairo Opera



A brochure announcing the First Jordanian Festival of Children's Songs to be held from Sept. 6-9

House, and Syrian Ilham Abu Su'oud, the first teacher of musical education in Syria.

In addition, Kifah

Fakhouri, director of the National Music Conservatory of Noor Al Hussein Foundation, and other Jordanian musicians will take part in the festival.

One of the songs, saio Mr. Amaireh, will be carefully chosen for inclusion in the Third Arab Music Festival to be held in Cairo in October.

Bili Wyman's wife gives birth: to a daughter

LONDON (AP) — Sozzanne Wyman, wife of former Roll-ing Stone Bill Wyman, gave

birth Sunday to their first child, a daughter. Katharine Noelle, weighing 6 lbs. 13 oz.

(3.09 kilogrammes). was born m a London hospital.

Wyman, 57, who was a bass

player with the rock group

until last year, has a 31-year-

old son from a previous mar-

riage. He married the former

Suzanne Accosta, 34, an

American fashion designer, in France in April 1993.

Fiorida grave may

WASHINGTON (AFP) -

may unravel an imperial mys-

tery, say students of Napo-

leon bent on discovering if

the tricorned Corsican might

have been murdered. "We're

thinking about trying to ex-bume the body of Napoleon's

nephew" who is buried in

Tallahassee, said Napoleonic

Society of America (NSA)

spokesman Bob Snibbe. It's

come down to a battle for

bones and bits of hair, and

awaiting potentially telling test results from the labor-

atories of the Federal Burran

of Investigation, Mr. Snibbe said, sounding convinced the

society is getting closer to the truth. The famed French

emperor died in 1821 on the

windswept South Atlantic is-

land of Saint Helena, but just how he died has kept stu-dents of his life bunting for ciues for more than a cen-

tury. Two separate bair samples reputedly from the Little Corporal himself are being tested by the FBI to deter-

mine whether the person or

persons from whom they were snipped died of arsenic

poisoning. But "whether it was really Napoleon's hair,

was really Napoleon's nar, nobody really knows," Mr. Snibbe acknowledged. Still, he said, "the (atomic absorp-tion) tests will reveal how much arsenic is in the hair, if

any" - though without con-

tell if Napoleon

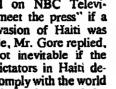
was murdered

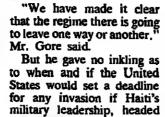
Gore: Haiti leaders will leave 'one way or another'

WASHINGTON (R) — Vice President Al Gore said Sun-Asked on NBC Televiday that Haiti's military leaders will have to leave "one

way or another."
Mr. Gore said that "the world community is out-raged, the United States is outraged" at what be called Haiti's "illegal dictators" of military rulers and their

sion's "meet the press" if a U.S. invasion of Haiti was inevitable, Mr. Gore replied, "it is not inevitable if the illegal dictators in Hairi decide to comply with the world community's wisbes and de-mands embodied in the United Nation's Resolution 940





and leave of their own

power to exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Deputy-Secretary of State strobe Talbott said last week

that options other than invasion have nearly been ex-bausted and U.S. military officials bave talked openly about preparations for an in-

Haiti's 7,000-member miltiary force, which has fewer than a dozen armoured personnel carriers and only light weapons, is ill-equipped to defend against an American invasion force.

On Saturday, Representa-tive Lee Hamilton said the United States was close to military intervention in Haiti, ... unless we can have a dramatic diplomatic initiative... or perbaps some opening that might come through some of the secret activities

that are going on.
"I can't be specific about that, but there are some acti-vities," Mr. Hamiltion, the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said on CNN's "Newsmaker Saturday" programme, de-clining to say what they were.



Women panhandle outside a local church following the morning service in downtown Port-Au-Prince. The ongoing U.N.-imposed

Diplomats in Port-Au-Prince said they knew of no specific secret mitiative but added there were signs of a rift among Haiti's military

Some said that although Gen. Cedras and Brigadier-General Philippe Biamby showed no indication they would discuss stepping down, the third of the trio Washington has pledged to remove, Colonel Joseph Michel Fran-

Gen. Cedras, who refused to speak to reporters Sunday after attending mass with his wife, has been keeping a low

Mr. Hamilton, as well as many other members of Congress, bave expressed reservations about bow long a U.S. force would have to remain in Haiti and about Mr. Aristide's leadersbip

economic embargo against Haiti has had the most effects on the country's poor according to local church authorities (AFP photo Congress) are bighly sceptical of intervention. I do believe.

however, that if a president decides to intervene, makes the case for it, and the American military forces are on the island, Congress will accept it," Mr. Hamilton said. Senate Republican leader Bob Dole said this week be

was opposed to an invasion unless President Bill Clinton could convince him that it was in the U.S. national in-

"I think most members (of cois, was seen as more willing Greek MPs to vote on Mitsotakis trial

ATHENS (R) — A Greek investigating committee asked parliament Monday to bring criminal charges against former Prime Minister Con-stantine Mitostakis over allegations that he accepted bribes in the 1992 sale of a state cement firm.

Officials said the par-bamentary committee hand-

tion asking that Mr. Mitsotakis and two of his former ministers be tried by a special

13-judge criminal court. Mr. Kaklamanis must now set a date within the next month for a debate and vote on whether to lift the immun-ity of Mr. Mitsotakis, conservative prime minister from 1990 to 1993, and send him

for trial. The 300-seat parliament, where the ruling Socialists

have a clear absolute majority, has already voted in a separate case to try Mr. Mit-sotakis on charges of illegal wiretapping.

Mr. Mitsotakis is accused of accepting \$22.5 million in bribes in the sale of the staterun Heracles Cement Company to Italy's Calcestruzzi Cement and Greece's National Bank for \$225 mil-

firming precisely whose hair was tested. The arsenic test results are to be unveiled at the NSA annual conference in Chicago next week.

Bangiadesh to export crocodiles DHAKA (AFP) — Commerce Minister M. Shamsul Islam said Bangladesh would export crocodiles to boost its tor, newspapers here reported Monday. The minister told parliament Sunday that foreign demand for crocodiles was strong and that they would be taken from the Sundarban mangrove forest area. He did not say what the crocodiles would be used for or in what form they would be exported. Bangladesh's

and handicrafts. Ciosure of Phnom

district criticised

PHNOM PENH (AFP) -

Penh brothei

existing non-traditional ex-

ports include cane furniture

City authorities are under fire for shntting down Phnom clinic for check-ups for sexnally transmitted diseases — \$ particularly HIV, the precursor to acquire immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) — for fear of police harassment.

Australia's Evans calls for U.N. military

torce SYDNEY (R) — Australian aid officials Monday supported calls by Foreign Minister Gareth Evans for a permanent U.N. military force paid for from existing national defence budgets or

an international tax or levy. Care Australia, involved in Rwanda, Somalia and Cambodia, Monday called for more coordinated U.N. military involvement in aid mis-

"Somalia proved bow successful a joint relief effort can be during times of large-scale disaster... and we all hope that future emergencies will comprise an even more effective and coordinated military response," said National

Director Ian Harris. Community Aid Abroad (CAA) also hacked Mr.

"We support the plan strongly, with the caveat that there are well-trained, well coordinated troops," Executive Director Jeremy Hobbs

Mr. Hobbs said the thousands of deaths in the Rwandan-Zaire border refugee camps could have been avoided bad the United Nations mobilised a force more quickly and prevented the

mass exodus from Rwanda. In the latest edition of the U.S. magazine Foreign Policy, published Sunday, Mr. Evans described the U.N.'s peacekeeping system as makeshift, under-trained, ill-

equipped and slow. "Although the idea of the U.N. standing force has in the past been ruled ont as unrealistic, including by me, the U.N.'s recent impotence in the face of genocide gives cause for reconsideration," Mr. Evans said.

Mr. Evans said a standing force could be paid for by a contribution of five per cent of defence budgets by all U.N. members, resulting in a U.N. security budget of \$40 billion, 10 times the body's current peacekeeping

bndget. Alternatively, financing could come from a levy on international air travel — a flat \$10 per passenger levy would yield \$3 billion — or a turnover tax on foreignexchange transactions of about 0.1 per cent.

"Cost will be the key reason, though not the only one, for member states resisting the creation of a rapid reaction force of any size,"

Mr. Evans wrote. Mr. Evans said a U.N. military force must be complimented with preventive diplomacy and called for the creation of six regional U.N. preventive diplomacy units, staffed by senior U.N. officers familiar with their regional issues.

The foreign minister also called for an administrative reorganisation of the United Nations involving the creation of four deputy secretaries general, one responsible for peace-huilding and humanitarian affairs, to make management more efficient.

church in Port-An-Prince Haiti (AFP photo) Bloody battle looms in French presidential poll

PARIS (AFP) — A bloody battle loomed Monday within France's ruling right-wing coalition after Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac threw his hat in the ring for next year's presidential poll in a bid to rain the unner hand from gain the upper hand from Prime Minister Edouard Bal-

Haitian military leader Raoul Cedras (left) and his wife Jarnick Prosper (centre) enter a

Mr. Balladur, so far an undeclared candidate for the top job, faced a split within his government as ministers stated their preferences, opening up the prospects for two Gaullist candidates in the presidential election next

April and May. Mr. Chirac, president of the Rally For the Republic (RPR) Party, opened fire at the weekend as Mr. Balladur continued to fly high in opin-ion polls, with one survey crediting the prime minister with a popularity rating of 60

Another poll said that if American-style primary elections were held to pick a conservative candidate, Mr. Balladur would win with 44 per cent of the vote, compared with 31 per cent for

Mr. Balladur's persistent high standing in the polls forced Mr. Chirac to react or

Addressing a seminar of the RPR youth wing in Bordeaux over the weekend, the Gaullist leader made it abundantly clear he will stand for election, even though he stopped short of a formal

declaration of candidacy.

To cries of "Chirac for president," he made a thinlyveiled attack on Mr. Balladur, his former protege within the RPR, accusing him of betrayal and ingratitude.

Mr. Chirac recalled the 'pact" between himself and Mr. Balladur after the right's landslide legislative victory over the Socialists in March 1993. Under the pact, the premiership was for Mr. Bal-ladur, while Mr. Chirac was to devote himself to his presidential campaign.

"It is human nature for ambitions to come out into the open," Mr. Chirac said, but at the end of the road. unity must prevail, for the interest of France demands it, and this is no empty word for Gaullists." Far from encouraging uni-

PHNOM PENH (R) —

One of the main organisers of

failed coup attempt in Cam-

bodia in July has escaped

from military detention, a

senior police commander said

General Sin Song, a former

nterior minister in the old

Vietnamese-installed govern-

ment, escaped early Sunday

morning, the police comman-

der said, asking not to be

"He escaped from the de-

tention house Sunday morn-

ing between 3 and 4 a.m. we

are in the process of tracking

him down," the commander

Gen. Sin Song was origi-

nally placed under house

arrest on July 3 while his

alleged co-conspirator,

Prince Norodom Cbakra-

pong, was ordered to leave

Monday.

Cambodia coup plotter

escapes from custody

ty. 61-year-old Cbirac opened up a split within the governing coalition, and pre-sented Mr. Balladur with a scenario he has been trying to scenario ne has been trying to avoid — a premature pres-idential campaign poisoning the remaining eight months of bis government.

Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, who is RPR secretary-

general, signalled the start of the hattle Friday night by plumping openly for Mr. Chirac. Mr. Juppe told the semi-

nar: "If Jacques Chirac shows the way, you will be there — and I will be with you — to follow him,"

Mr. Juppe at once reaf-firmed his "loyalty" to the government, but the clear support for a Chirac candidacy by such a prominent member of the government could only emharrass the 64-year-

old Balladur.
The remarks were a switch for Mr. Juppe, who only last month had said that the RPR would have to choose between the two rivals, implying for the first time that the party's candidate would not automatically be Mr.

Opinion polls have shown that Mr. Chirac, already a loser in presidential elections in 1981 and 1988, could be defeated by Jacques Delors. 68, the outgoing European Commission president and a former moderate Socialist finance minister. Mr. Balladur on the other hand would easily defeat Mr. Delors, the

polls show. Mr. Delors has so far been reluctant to declare his candidacy, but appears the

Socialists' best hope. The RPR is the biggest party in the ruling right-wing coalition. Big guns in its junior partner, the Union for French Democracy (UDF), were prompted by Mr. Chirac's broadside to restate their support for a Balladur can-

Industry Minister Gerard Longuet came out for a "unity candidate" — meaning Mr. Balladur — and criticised Mr. Chirac's stance as premature, while Defence Minister Francois Leotard attacked those openly calling for a Chirac candidacy as "snipers" who were undermining the coalition government.

Gen. Sin Song was later

placed under custody of the

Defence Ministry and was

supervised by military police at the time of his escape, the

police source told Reuters.

mer deputy prime minister and a son of King Norodom

Sihanouk, first landed in

Malaysia before travelling on

Last Tuesday he arrived in

France and boarded a domes-

tic flight to the southern town

of Montpellier. He has a French residency permit dat-ing back to the 1970s.

Gen. Sin Song, Prince Chakrapong and another

alleged plotter, General Sin

Sen, were all members of the

Cambodian People's Party

(CPP), the political wing of

to Thailand.

Prince Chakrapong, a for-

Malaysia detains Al Argam leader's wife, aide

KUALA LUMPUR (AFP) — Malaysian police said Monday one of the wives and a senior aide of Al Argam leader Ashaari Mohammad would be detained under state security laws.

Hatijah Aam, one of Mr. Ashaari's four wives, and a senior aide, Soid Sulaiman, are to join the sect leader in detention under Malaysia's Internal Security Act (ISA), which allows imprisonment without trial, the nation's De-puty Police Chief Samsuri Arshad said.

Three other aides of the detained 57-year-old Muslim leader were held under the Societies Act, under which

they could be fined or jailed.
"Hatijah's six-month-old will be allowed to star with her as she is being breast-fed," a police spokes-

man said. Sect followers said they had no plans for a militant

response to the action. The detentions signal the government's deepening of a clampdown launched last month when Malaysia outlawed the sect's activities, ruling that Al Arqam prop-

agated deviationist teachings. Mr. Samsuri said the ISA arrests were made to pave the way for further investigations because police believe they were adequate for detaining the sect leaders indefinitely.

ed parliamentary President Apostolos Kaklamanis a peti-Brazil economy minister quits over gaffe BRASILIA (R) — Economy Minister Rubens Ricupero

said he had resigned over comments overheard by television viewers that have thrown Brazil's politics into disarray just one month be-

A tearful Ricupero told a news conference he was quitting after boasting to a television reporter that he was using an anti-inflation plan to boost presidential frontrunner Fernando Henrique

"My weaknesses cannot be allowed to harm that which is ment, which is the success" of the economic plan, Ricupero said.

"That is why I asked to resign," he said. An Economy Ministry spokeswoman said President Itamar Franco

had accepted the resignation. A presidential spokesman said Franco had named Ceara State Governor Ciro Gomes as the new economy minister, private CBN radio reported. Mr. Gomes will be Brazil's sixth economy minister since

Mr. Franco took office in late Mr. Gomes is a star in Mr. Cardoso's Brazilian Social

Democratic Party (PSDB).

He gained international attention as an innovative reformer while governor of Ceara, a poor northeastern

Mr. Franco "wants a guarantee of continuity in the plan's essentials, a plan in which I also believe," Mr. Gomes said in a CBN inter-

Analysts said the gaffe had ven new hope to leftist Luiz Inacio "Lula" Da Silva of the Workers Party (PT), trailing Mr. Cardoso by 22 points in polls ahead of the Oct. 3 elections. He now could force round run-off in Novem-

"This has been a quiet campaign up to now. It has been a one-subject campaign," a Latin American diplomat said, referring to the

economic plan. "This now gives Cardoso's opponents something to bash

A caravan of bornhonking, flag-waving PT supporters demonstrated before the ministry minutes after Mr. Ricupero's announcement to celebrate his resigna-

"Cry, little Fernando, be-cause your time has come."

the demonstrators chanted, The plan to stabilise the economy, the world's ninth largest, was designed by Mr. Cardoso, Mr. Ricupero's predecessor. It has lowered inflation to two per cent in August from 50 per cent in June and Mr. Cardoso has

surged in polls with its suc-The furore stemmed from Mr. Ricupero's conversation Thursday with a television reporter. While waiting to be interviewed via satellite, Mr. Ricupero said he was backing Mr. Cardoso by promoting

"I have no scruples. The good things we publicise, the bad we bide," be said, according to a transcript published by the Jornal Do Brasil

daily.
Unknown to Mr. Ricapero and the reporter, the chat

was transmitted and picked up by thousands of satellite ishes nationwide. Mr. Ricupero's admission destroyed his image as an impartial administrator of the

economic plan. A former ambassador to the United States, Mr. Ricupero had been among the favourites to become head of the new World Trade Organisation

IAEA: Safety is key to acceptance of nuclear power

VIENNA (AFP) — Nuclear power plants would garner wider public acceptance only through continued demonstration of their safety and reliability, the head of the world's nuclear watchdog

said here Monday. "The wider acceptance of the nuclear option can only he expected from continued demonstration of its safety, reliability and environmental advantages," said Hans Blix, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), during a speech opening a conference on nuc-

lear power. The four-day conference, attended by delegates from 37 countries and five international organisations, is being held in conjunction with the 40th anniversary of the opening of the first nuclear power

plant in Obninsk, Russia, in 1954. There are currently 430 nuclear power plants operating in 30 countries and producing 17 per cent of the world's electrical energy.

Mr. Blix told the delegates that it was regrettable that atomic weapons and the illegal trafic of nuclear material had tended to undermine the usefulness of nuclear power

"It is regrettable that the issues which now dominate the media tend to create an atmosphere in which it is difficult to have a balanced public discussion for the nuclear power option," Mr. Blix

Meanwhile, forty years af-

ter the world's first nuclear power station came on problems, perhaps even more so since Chernobyl." stream in the Soviet Union, the Russian nuclear industry is battling for its future amid Western experts who have

Russian officials are convinced that Western concerns over security at Russian nuclear power industry. That, and the parlous state

mounting Western pressure.

of the Russian economy, are posing a real threat to the development of the industry, Russian experts say. "The worst thing is that we are losing our scientific

potential," one expert said. . "If things don't improve quickly, within five years we'll be reduced to buying everything from the Americans."

Despite the catastrophic nuclear leak at Chernobyl in Ukraine in April 1986, officials are very proud of what the industry has achieved. "Our nuclear power sta-

tions are three times cheaper, and in many cases more efficient than their Western equivalents," the expert said. A scientist in the Atomic Energy Ministry, who declined to be named, poured scorn on the West's obsession with Chemobyl.

"It's ridiculous. Our power stations are no less safe than the Americans'. Chernobyl was caused by a human error, just like Three Mile Island, he said, referring to a leak of radioactivity from a threemonth-old reactor at Three Mile Island near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in March 1979.

"Workers at the power stations are very aware of safety

inspected Russian plants confirm that the workers are highly professional in their Their main worries stem

from the fact that the future development of the Russian nuclear programme is based on RBMK reactors like the one at Chemobyl. Western scientists have

also expressed doubts about the credibility of Russia's nuclear safety inspectorate, GosAtomNadzor, to which each power station must apply for a licence every year. GosAtomNadzor reports directly to the Russian presi-

theory independent of the Atomic Energy Ministry. But in reality they get paid less than the operators in the power stations. One Western expert said that at least one nuclear power station was in the habit of paying GosAtomNadzor inspectors.

dent, and its inspectors are in

undermining their independ-The Russians deny that such payments are made, but they do admit that the industry is facing a general funding

Nearly all development projects have been frozen for lack of funds. A symptom of the economic crisis is that many major clients, factories and towns, fail to pay their

The overail debt to electricity producers was recently estimated at \$1 billoin. The power stations, in turn, often pay their own employees

months late. Nuclear installations themselves are ageing — around 20 per cent of the reactors in Russia date back to the early 1970s - and construction work on their replacements has not started. Research institutes too are feeling the pinch.

So far Russia is managing to meet the demand for electricity. In spite of the country's economic dislocation, Russia's nine nuclear power stations last year kept output at the level of previous years, generating 120 billion kilowatt hours to supply 12 per cent of the country's electricity needs.

Last year 29 accidents were logged, all of them at Level One, the lowest on the international scale of incidents at nuclear power stations, and none of them involved any

leak of radioactivity. But the ghost of Chernobyl continues to haunt the industry. In Ukraine, four nuclear reactors beside Chernobyl are not generating enough to make up the shortfall in the country's electricity require-

Mindful of Western anxiety, and bopeful of securing a much-needed cash windfall. Kiev has constantly upped its estimates of the cost of closing the Chernobyl plant for

Penh's notorious Toul Kork brothel district, and critics say the closure will promote the spread of disease and the loss of income for locals. Health workers said they were upset about the crackdown, and have warned that the brothel ban will push sex workers underground, and complicate the prevention and control of the human immuno-deficency virns (HIV). But while the government and health workers argued about the best way to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, other Tonl Kork residents had more immediate concerns. "I used to make \$150 a month from hiring my house to the prostitutes, but now I get nothing," said a disappointed Noh Kim, 39. Chan Sok, 54, who used to pay her rent by selling anti-venereal disease creams and condoms to the male clients and prostitutes in Toul Kork said: "Now I won't be able to sell even a single condom." "I don't know how to get money to feed my children now," she said. Ouk Vongwathiny, a doctor at a clinic in the oncethriving red light district, said, the closure "is good for the government but it is not good for us to control the possible spread of AIDS. She said that prostitutes would stop coming to the

World News

to a daugh LONDON (AP) Wyman, wife mg Stone Bill birth Sunday of child, a daught Noelle, weight born in a Loude Wyman, 57, who player with the world last year he until last year, he old son from a partiage. He mande Suzanne Accon American fasho in France in An

t highly sceptical at at a president nervene, makes and the Amerforces are on the pess will accept milton said. publican leader ad this week he to an invasion ent Bill Clinton ee him that it

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r gaffe stors chanted. o stabilise the world's minth signed by Mr. Ricapero's prefirming precisely wir . 26 lowered inwas tested. The me per cent in results are to be mi 50 per cent in

Cardoso has s with its sucsermed from s conversation t a television : waiting to be

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Research in-

who used to pay her selling anti-venered creams and condons idents were male clients and prosing an at Level Toul Kork said won't be able to u the interracidents at single condom. stions, and know how to get mile volved any feed my children said. Ouk Vong Chemobyl t the indus-M Buciear

said, the closure. Chernobyl coorgh to tfall in the ty require-

the government cost possible spread of clinic for check-ups ters ancieually transmitted of particularly HIV. securing a windfall. sor to acquire [All] Fapped its act of closfor fear of police hard

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Fiorida gray tell if Napole was murden

WASHINGTON Remains in a Flo may unravel an im tery, say student leon bent on discourse the tricorned Combave been murden thinking about the least state and the least stat bume the body of it nephew" who is Ireland seeks to quell U.K. doubts on ceasefire Tallahassee Tallahassee, said & BELFAST (R) — Irish Fore-Society of American Dick Spring will Society of Americ spokesman Bob S come down to a) bones and bits of about the permanence of an

ign Ministet Dick Spring will

seek to dispel British doubts

IRA ceasefire in talks Mon-

Mr. Spring and Sir Patrick

awaiting potential test results from day evening with secretary, atories of the Feder Northern Helands of Investigation, ke Sir Patrick Mayhew.

The two men, key said, sounding come in a nine-month-old Anglo-society is getting the truth. The fame day after the Potestant UVF emperor died in its extremist group carbombed windswept South its extremist group carbombed land of Saint Heles and the Belfast offices of the land of Saint Heles and the Belfast offices of the land of Saint Heles and the Belfast offices wing. Sinn land of Saint Helen - IRA's political wing, Sinn how he died has Fein, in what it said was an dents of his life her Fein, in what it said was an dents of his life le rette, in what is democraclues for more the cy.

ples reputedly from will try to lay the groundwork Corporal himself a for the next moves to end the tested by the FBIt 25-year-old sectorian and mine whether the problem of positions of the position of the position of the problem of the position of the problem of the pro poisoning. But the Fein could join if the IRA was really Napoles ceasefire is for good. nobody teally know Snibbe acknowledge he said, "the (alomer tion) tests will me much arsenic is in this. any" -- though with

Bangladeshto export crowli

the NSA annual me.

in Chicago next mek

DHAKA (AFP) Islam said Bangladele export crocodiles to be non-traditional exor tor, newspapers 15. ported Monday. Thestold parliament Sum Flames pour from a carbomb which exploded wing of the IRA, Sind foreign demand in in front of the headquarters of the political Belfast (AFP photo) diles was strong and it. would be taken from Chechen opposition gather forces against Dudayev He did not say w ... crocodiles would be # MOSCOW (AFP) or in what form the Opposition groups in Chechbe exported. Bank nya appeared poised Monday existing non-tradition to join forces in a concerted ports include case to Moscow-backed military

Closure of Phi ist repoblic. Penh brothel

district critic visional Council led by Omar Avturkhanov and forces loyal PHNOM PENH (to warlord Ruslan Labaza-City authorities are at nov, was firmed up as the for shutting down! former sent 70 troops to join Penh's notorious 10 the latter's force fighting gov-brothel district, and ernment troops at Argun, 15 say the closure will kilometres (nine miles) south the spread of disease of the capital Grozny, reports loss of income for indicated Monday. Health workers sir,

immuno-deficency

Earlier former Russian parliamentary speaker Rusdown, and have war lan Khasbulatov said he was the brothel ban will also ready to gather "several workers undergroup thousand volunteers" under the command of the council, which is openly backed by

drive to topple President Dzhokhar Dndayev, the

president of Russian separat-

An alliance between for-

Fighting in the northern

Caucasus republic has intensified since the council called Friday for the military overthrow of Mr. Dudayev's gov-

Britaio says it needs con-

vincing that the Irish Repub-

lican Army (IRA) has ended

rather than suspended its war

against British rule on North-

ern Ireland and Mr. Spring

said the Dublin government

might also seek clarification

Sunday oight's UVF attack

underlined the problems fac-

ing the two governments in

reconciling the IRA's long-

term goal of uniting Northern

Ireland with the Irish Repub-

lic and Protestant determina-

tion that it will stay forever

It was the first carbomb

attack by the Ulster Volun-

teer Force in 17 years and

raised fresb fears among

security forces about a new-

found sophistication of their

The UVF mounted the big-gest guerrilla attack in the

hombing techniques.

from Sinn Fein.

ernment. The same day, clasbes between Provisional Council forces and government troops killed up to 20 people. Up to nine more were killed Sunday in the clashes at Argun, government and

council sources said. The tapprochement between the opposition groups emerged after Mr. Avturkhanov met Sunday with Mr. Khasbulatov, one of the leaders of the October 1993 revolt against Boris Yeltsin and who eturned to bis native Chechenya at the beginning

of August. Troops loyal 10 Mr. Lahazanov were forced to retreal from Argun after government troops moved in with

Seoul opposition leader urges N. Korean detente

came four days after the IRA declared an open-ended ceasefire

Ireland. Britain denies this.

peace process, but we will oot

be iotimidated by the loyalist

death squads not will we be

deflected from the peace pro-

cess," Tom Hartley, a Sinn

Fein Belfast city councillor.

The UVF and the bigger

Ulster Freedom Fighters are

studying their response to the

IRA ceasefire and appeals by

Britain and Ireland to match

with one of their own.

Chris Hudson, who met UVF

tepresentatives last week on

behalf of the Irish govern-

ment, told Irisb Radio he was

caunously optimistic the Pro-

testant extremists would end

tbeir war against Irisb

"I saw people who would describe themselves as very,

very close to the UVF. My

feeling was that there was

definitely cautious optimism on their side — that they

were beginning to feel con-

vinced there was no sell-out,

no deals done, no secret

soonet rather than later they

could bring around a cessa-

tion of violence on the loyal-

ist side," he told the radio

The London Guardian

newspapet said the U.S. gov-

ernment, which has played a central role in recent de

velopments, had granted a

second visitor's visa to Sinn

the personal intervention of

President Clinton to tbank

tioned in the regions neighbouring Checbenya have

been put on top alert, De-fence Ministet Pavel Grachev told ITAR-TASS news agen-

cy Monday. He said the "most serious

measures," which included

tight road and air travel con-

trols, were aimed at prevent-

ing a conflict raging there

from spreading outside

Chechenya. Russia denies Mr.

Dudayev's accusations that it

is rendering military support

to the opposition. But it is

openly backing it politically.

Gen. Grachev in his remarks

to TASS blamed Mr.

Dudayev for what he called civil war in Checbenya.

Caucasus military district

have been put on top alert," Gen, Grachev said, "Unit

commanders were ordered to

limit the conflict immediately

if it spreads outside

Chechenya's borders.

"Some Units of the North

for this," it said.

"He bas almost certainly

Fein leadet Gerry Adams.

They were optimistic that

nanonalists,

agenda.

Irish trade union official

said in a statement.

"This was an attack on the

Irish Republic in 20 years in

May wheo it tried to bomb a

Sinn Fein party in Dublin

with a bag of sophisticated

in Sunday night's raid was not

immediately known but it

showed the determination of

the UVF to oppose any

moves by Sinn Fein to be-

come part of the legal politic-

al process taking shape in

A police spokesman said

no ne was injured in the

blast, which shattered nearby

windows but did not cause

much damage. On Thursday

the UVF sbot and killed a

lieve that, in exchange for the

ceasefire, Britain has made

secret concessions to the IRA

and Sinn Fein that will dilute

the province's British status

Protestant extremists be-

The type of explosive used

Semtex explosive.

Northern Ireland.

Catholie mao.

wing of the IRA, Sinn Fein, in Fall Road, West

independence.

ment.

Mr. Dudayev unilaterally

declared independence from

Moscow in September 1991

after winning 85 per cent of

the poll in a presidential elec-

tion. Moscow has refused to

recognise the oil-rich state's

The Provisional Council

which was set up at the begin-

ning of August and which has

since received financial and

logistical aid from Moscow.

announced Sunday its inten-

tion to intensify the armed

struggle against the govern-

The weekend clashes be-

tween opposition factions

and troops loyal 10 Mr.

Dudayev stepped up the war

of nerves as the tiny Muslim

state prepared to celebrate

Tuesday the third

anniversary of its secession.

The Independence Day

try unless Pyongyang agrees to accept a South Korean reactor. Giving North Korea modern nuclear reactor is a key part of a U.S.-North Korean deal agreed to last month to

resolve suspicion the North is developing ouclear weapons. U.S. negotiators agreed to give the North some form of diplomatic recognition in exchange for Pyongyang's promise to freeze its nuclear

Washington and Pyongyang are due to begin working-level talks on Sept.

bilateral talks, to all intents and purposes, and the South Kotean authorities have no justification or qualification to poke their nose into the

Meanwhile a best-selling

U.S., Cuba are far apart on legal visas for migrants

NEW YORK (R) — The man for the U.S. deleganon United States and Cuba would say only: There are attempt again Monday to bridge differences on the mass exodus of Cuban boat people sailing towards Florida with U.S. officials warning against expectations of a quick accord.

After early optimism when the talks began Thursday, the tbird session ended with both sides far apart on a U.S. offer to increase legal immigratioo in exchange for Cuba halting the migration, now number-

ing over 30,000 this year.
At issue is a U.S. offer to issue immigration visas to mòre than 20,000 Cubans a year in return for Havana stopping the uncontrolled exodus. To date the United States bas only allowed io about 2,700 people a year, while Cuba insists a 1982 agreement allowed for thousands more.

Cuba's chief delegate, Ricardo Alarcon, has maintained that the number of visas sbould be far higher than the United States had proposed, pointing to about 130,000 Cubans who bave tried unsuccessfully to obtain legal eotry. He apparently told U.S.

negotiators Sunday, including Michael Stol, the deputy secretary of state, that Havana wanted at least 100,000 legal Cuba visas, according to the New York Times.

In comparison, more than 30.000 Cubans have tried to enter the United States illegally since the beginning of the year, most of them in August sailing rafts and rickety boats.

David Johnson, spokes-

substantial gaps between us and I would caution against any premature speculation that an agreement will be reached.

"The differences are significant," he told reporters Sunday after the third round of negotiations at the U.S. mission to the United Na-

But be again failed to give any explanation or answer questions after his regular briefings.

Reversing earlier U.S. policies against Cubans who escaped by sea, President Bill Clinton last month said the new refugees could not come to the United States.

Instead, they are being taken to the U.S. naval base at Guatanamo on the Western tip of Cuba. He also nightened the embargo by forbidding remittances and travel by relatives.

Panama Sunday announced it would allow up to 10,000 Cuban refugees to be boused in U.S. controlled territory aloog the Panama Canal to relieve congestion at Guatanamo. The cost to the United States for six months will run to almost \$50 million, a U.S. military spokesman

The U.S. Coast Guard picked up 620 Cuban rafters at see by late afternoon Sunday, petty officet Alex Wotden said. Saturday's total was 946, down from earliet in the

week but still bigh. Tweoty-two Cubans, all from the same family, slipped past the Coast Guard and landed their wooden boat at



A two year-old Cuban girl is brought aboard the Coast Guard cutter Matincus after her families' raft was picked up in the Florida Straits. The Coast Guard continues to pick up about one thousand Cuban refugees a day (AFP photo)

the Dry Tortugas National Park, a remote island about 70 miles (110 kilometres) west of Key West, Florida, in the Gulf of Mexico.

Park rangers said they belped with the island's housekeeping, taking brooms and mops to clean up their quarters before being taken to an immigration centre in

Mr. Alarcon, a former foreign minister who is president of Cuba's National Assembly, bas insisted that Cubans are leaving because of economic hardships due to the 32-year-old U.S. economic embargo and not political oppression.

'If you want to fiod a real resolution to this problem you cannot ignore the sources of the problem," he told the Cable News Network. "And the sources are the economic embargo.

Spanisb Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez apparently agreed, saying that the U.S. policy of discussing migration in isolation was selfdefeating.

"Emigration is strictly a product of Cuba's problems and specifically of its relation with the United States," he told Madrid's El Pais news-

Civil rights leader Jesse Jackson also called for a new initiative in U.S. policy. He The Nation programme that now was the time "to use aggressive diplomacy and oegotiations, trade and media to create new expectations within Cuba and create irreversible change.

suffering from dehydration after he was pick-A United States Coast Guard medic aboard the USCG Cutter Matineus assists a Cuban rafter ed up at sea off the Cuban coast (AFP photo)

U.N. warns Pope's life 'at risk' in Sarajevo

SARAJEVO (R) — U.N. peacekeepers warned on Monday that Pope John Paul's life would be at risk on a Sarajevo visit and accused Muslim forces of deliberately

hitting the city's airport with mortar sbell last month. With the Vatican under pressure to decide whether the 74-year-old Pootiff should go ahead with his visit to the Bosnian capital Thurs-

day, a U.N. official who asked not to be named said: "The Pope's life will be at risk and the lives of those around him will be at risk as

The Papal aircraft will land at the airport and be will be exposed to sniper fire in the city which is surrounded by Serb besiegers and defended

by the government army. Informed sources said Vatican officials could wait until the eve of the visit before making a final announcement.

Pope John Paul was anxious to make bis "pilgrimage of peace" provided it did not endanger the local popula-

The main obstacle has been the refusal of Bosnian Serbs to guarantee the Pope would not be barmed. Their

leader, Radovan Karadzic, told the Vatican he was worried the Muslims might launch an attack and blame

His fears were given weight by the Uoited Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) which blamed Muslims Monday for a deliberate attack with an Israeli-made mortar on Sarajevo Airport on Aug.

The results of all our investigations show the shell clearly came from (the gov-ernment) lines," Lieutenant Colonel Pierre Ducros said.

The Bosnian government, embarrassed by the timing of the disclosure, told UNPRO-FOR it did not accept the finding.

The U.N. stressed the incident "was a direct and intentional targeting of the air-port" oo which Sarajevo's 380,000 population relies for

airlifted relief supplies. UNPROFOR bas said that ultimate responsibility for the safety of the Pope, making potentially the most danger-ous trip of his 16-year pontificate, lies with the govern-

It reported firing incidents around Sarajevo by both sides ovet the weekend together with a major offen-sive by the Bosnian Serb Army (BSA) against Muslim troops who suffered severe casualties north of the capital near Breza.

Canadian U.N. officers reported the Serbs used artillery during the fightiog in defiance of a heavy weapons exclusion zone enforced around the city by UNPRO-

"(The Muslims) took a terrible pounding in the last two or three weeks," one officer said. "They are scratching to put up some

sort of defence." The offensive underlined the Bosnian Serb's military superiority over government forces despite the increasing flow of weapons reaching Muslim fighters in recent

months. The Bosnian Serb Army is confident it can retain its advantage for the foreseeable future even if the United States can persuade the U.N. nations to lift its arms embar-

go against the Muslims. U.S. President Bill Clinton will ask the Security Council for the embargo's removal unless Bosnian Serbs lift their opposition by Oct. 15 to a big power peace settlement di-

viding Bosnia between them and a Muslim-Croat federa-

Russia, which beloed craft the peace agreement, threatened Monday to join Britain and France io withdrawing its troops from UN-PROFOR if the embargo was lifted by the U.N. or by the United States acting alone.

Vitaly Churkin, Moscow's mediator in formet Yugoslavia, told loterfax News Agency the move would rebound on the Muslims by prompting an escalation of the war.

Serbs in northern Bosnia have stepped up their expulsions of Muslims and Croats from the region since rejecting the big power peace prop-

Hundteds of Muslim women, children and old people were driven from their homes in Bijelijna and Jania in the north at the weekend to Muslim-held Tuzia.

International Red Cross spokeswoman Lisa Jones said the refugees reported that Serbs intended to empty both places of all Muslims by Sept. 8, the day the Pope is due in

Nigerian oil strike fading as workers return

LAGOS (R) - More Nigerian oil workers returned to their jobs Monday as a twomonth strike to topple the military government appeared to wane, industry officials said.

Milton Dabibi, dismissed by the government as secretary-general of the white-collar union PENGAS-SAN but still apparently speaking for the union, said the sacked executives of the unions had begun meeting to

take a decision on the strike. The oil union leaders, sacked by the government last month in a crackdown on the strike, have given conflicting signals over whether or not the action has been

Several oil company offi-

ing staff were back at work. "So far in Lagos more people have shown up today than before," Chris Williams, spokesman for shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria, which pumps about 50 per cent of the country's crude oil, told

cials said many of their strik-

Oil wotkers walked out two months ago to demand the military government free and transfer power to Moshood Abiola, a wealthy businessman widely credited with winning last year's annulled presidential vote.

After weeks of disruption in fuel supplies and crude oil production, military ruler General Sani Abacha sacked the union leaders and appointed administrators to run their unions.

The union chiefs have since been in hiding and their secretariats are occupied by the government-appointed administrators.

Since then oil workers in the public sector have resumed, easing considerably the fuel crunch prompted by the strike.

Those in the private sector are threatened with no-workno-pay policy.

Oil industry officials said the strike had been practically broken with the sacked union leaders driven underground with no operational

"I suspect that the unions

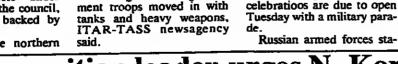
are suspending the strike because of the reality on the ground," one said.

The strikers have achieved none of their aims. Mr. Abiola remains in detention facing treason charges for proclaiming himself president in defiance of Gen. Abacha's

The Nigerian Medical Association, the doctors group which says Mr. Abiola is seriously ill, threatened Sunday to take "exceptional steps" if he was not freed within two weeks.

"The health of Bashorun Abiola has deteriorated and deserves urgent attention." the association, which backs his claim to the presidency,

said in a statement.



SEOUL (R) — The head of South Korea's main opposition party Monday urged President Kim Young-Sam to thow quickly to thaw relations with Communist North

Democratic Party (DP) Chairman Lee Ki-Taek urged Mr. Kim to replace bis foreign and unification ministers, saying their policies of cold war confrontation had Worsened relations with

"Relations between the United States and North Korea have reached a point doctor at a clinic in the where they are even discus-thriving red light the opening of liaison offices," Mr. Lee said.

"China and Russia have also been taking an active She said that that national interests. Our government has volved in diplomatic friction which does not suit the post-"cold war era," he said in a statement.

"North Korea, too, is moving forward fast diplomanically to come out of its isolation from the world community and to save its troubled economy," Mr. Lee said.

"In this context, we have to pool our efforts so the suspended inter-Korean summit can open immediately after the power transfer is completed in the North," he said. A meeting between the presidents of the two Koreas

was indefinitely postponed following the death in July of the north's "great leader" Kim 1l-Sung. Mr. Lee said Seoul should be flexible in tackling the row over the North's suspected

nuclear programme by drop-ping its stance that there would be no economic cooperation between the two Koreas unless Pyongyang's nuclear transparency was "If the present circumst-

ances continue, we will be outdone by the United States and Japan, even in economic cooperation with North Korea," Mr. Lee said.
Foreign Minister Han
Sung-Joo Monday left for the

United States to coordinate

policy towards the North. Seoul officials have said Mr. Han will ask the United States to link the speed at which it improves ties with North Korea to corresponding progress in inter-Korean relations. They said Mr. Han was

expected to reaffirm Seoul's position that it will pull out of an international deal to finance an upgrading of North Korea's nuclear power indus-

North Korea's official

Rodong Sinmun Monday criticised Mr. Han's trip as an attempt to interfere in improving ties between Washington and Pyongyang. "Han Sung-Joo's mendi-cant trip to the United States

shows the South Korean rulers are on pins and needles, feeling extremely uneasy and perplexed and behaving more imprudently to impede the improvement of DPRK (North Korean)-USA relations, as they have been elbowed out of the way in the solution to the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula,' the North Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) quoted the newspaper as

saying.
"The DPRK-U.S. talks are talks," the paper said.

South Kotean writer Monday was accused of violating a security law by writing a controversial novel,

By Rami G. Khouri

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Challenge before panel

THE DEBATE that took place Sunday between the chairman and members of the Royal Commission on Modernisation and reform, on the one hand, and representatives of the private sector, on the other, could be just the right medicine for abetting our economic and husiness atmosphere provided the scope of such discussions is wide and comprehensive enough to touch upon all aspects of development. As His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the chairman of the panel, told the private sector's leaders, "the Commission has been set up to help create a national atmosphere for the adoption of a sound course of action and attitudes with which we can deal with the world community so that our voices can be heard loud and clear and win with us the world's respect." The ultimate objective of this panel is to create a new Jordan, the Regent went on to say, hy modernising its ways of conducting business and attaining a comprehensive development programme.

Since the commission is not a substitute for Parliament, its purpose is to advise and consult. with the various sectors of the Jordanian society be they private or public with a view to elevating Jordanian methods of work to a much higher plateau that is cost effective, efficient and productive. All of us know only too well how cumbersome and outdated the current ways of conducting business are. Stifling bureaucracy, inefficient and unresponsive civil service, and uncoordinated legislations have effectively suffocated the national political will to modernise the country and put it on par with the most modern countries of the world.

Ohviously we are not speaking here of only state-of-the-art mechanical technologies hut also the elevation of Jordanian intellectual technologies to the needed level that is commensurate with the national desire to put Jordan on the modern map of the world. In the final analysis the commission is a think-tank and working group of people who are well-versed not only with husiness and development but also with the other complementary dimensions of progress. It would be in order for the panel to invite other Jordanians drawn from academia, press and the legal profession to their meetings in order to hroaden its horizons and assure its success. The new Middle East which is emerging on the heels of the current peace effort calls for modernisation in every sense of the world and across the board. Jordan needs to modernise its educational system, its legal system and its husiness and developmental legislations and methods of work. The dialogue initiated by the Crown Prince is a good start on which additional steps can be taken to reach our consensus goal of peace with

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily criticised a government decision to give raises to the secretaries general of ministries, deputies and ministers, saying that such moves can by no means end poverty or unemployment in the country. It seems that the government is intent on handling chronic issues by carrying out cosmetic surgery and treating serious illness through Asprins, said Sultan Al Hattab. The writer said the whole socio-economic situation in Jordan requires serious dehate and immediate solutions at the national level, especially as the country is entering a new stage and a new era of peace. One cannot belp feeling that the decision-makers in the Kingdom lack the experience in handling issues of unemployment and all they focus attention on is a way of curtailing expenses and rephrasing job descriptions of government positions, said the writer. He said that decision-makers do not give due attention to the investors' plans for development and for creating new jobs that can end many of the country's economic ilis. The government, added the writer, should open its ears to the complaints and adopt practical methods to ease the

ADDRESSING THE world population conference which opened in Cairo Monday, a columnist in Al Dustour said that Third World countries have voiced their condemnation of the conference because they are unhappy about the idea of curtailing the rate of their population growth. But, said the writer Taher Al Adwan, one of these Third World nations, including Arah and Muslim states, gave any thought to UNICEF reports about the daily deaths of Iraqi children as a result of the continued embargo. We are imposing a siege on 18 million Arabs living in Iraq and pushing them to die of hunger and diseases and so we are fulfilling the aims of the very conference which we as Arabs and Muslims are opposing, said the writer. It is ironic to see Arabs and Muslims fighting the idea of curtailing population growth and allowing thousands of Iraqi children to die as a result of sanctions which have caused so much state ings to the innocent population. Stop the real death of transichildren and stop involving yourselves in imaginary battles against what has been termed as a U.S.-Zionist conspiracy against the population of the Third World, said the writer. He said that the Arabs and Muslims can terminate the sanctions on Iraq and so contribute to saving

The View from Fourth Circle

Strange bedfellows or natural soulmates?

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS, indeed, many people thought upon seeing the Vatican, Egypt's Al Azhar Islamic centre, the Iranian government, and others come together recently to oppose parts of the draft declaration of this week's United Nations Conference on Population and Development in Cairo. This peculiar convergence of Vatican/Islamist views on pre-marital sexual morality, abortion and birth control, however, may be far more than a passing coalition of convenience. It may be an early skirmish and a marker of hattle lines in a new global confrontation between the secular and the religious.

The Vatican and the Islamists may turn out to be not so much strange bedfellows, but rather natural soulmates. Their deeply held worldviews may be the cutting edge of a wider global community of people who are instinctively resisting the excesses of Western, predominantly American-driven, materialistic consumerism. In the wake of the cold war and ideological polarisation, we are seeing bere aspects of a new world divide that is defined by several overlapping criteria including rich and poor, North and South, individual and communal, religious and secular, material and spiritual.

The folks opposing some parts of the Cairo declaration are not fringe religious freaks. These are the spokesmen of what may be a global moral — but not so silent — majority. When the Vatican, Al Azhar and Iranian leaders spoke in more or less a single voice, many people initially reacted with bemusement. When Saudi Arabia and a few other states skipped or downgraded their representation in the Cairo conference, bemusement turned to more focused attention on the possible political implications and true dimensions of what is going on here.

Late last week, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in the United States and the American Muslim

Council put ont a joint statement requesting the Cairo conference to explicitly endorse national policies that help women avoid abortions. What started out as the views of international theological purists suddenly moved closer to the mainstream of American and Western political culture. The question remains: What is this really all about?

The Cairo conference controversy is only superficially about population stabilisation, sex, and fertility choices for women. I suggest that it is really about whose vision of society will triumph in the early decades of the third millennium — a hypermodern, Western, libertarian, individualistic free-for-all market of materialism in which corporations and their mainly white male elites grow rich because they allow people to buy sex, pizza and lawn furniture by phone from the comfort of their own bomes; or, a more traditional, group-oriented society in which the entire community survives and progresses because it nurtures family, tribal and ethnic links and religious values.

It would be foolish to dismiss the Vatican/Islamist axis as the last gasp of the past. In the last decade and a half, Western critics have routinely dismissed reassertive Islamist politics as a combination of feudal romanticism and violence-prone emotionalism. The tendency is to do this again now on the Cairo conference issues, but this becomes more difficult given the fact that the Islamists' partner today is not a collection of bearded, robed, dark skinned radicals from the South, but clean-shaven, robed, mostly white clerics from the Vatican.

The temporary Catholic-Islamist coalition at hand requires a more rational response from the Western mainstream than the dismissive, racist attitudes to Islamist reassertion in recent years. And this is what we are seeing and hearing. The retort to the anti-Cairo crowd is denominated in substantive, often empirical and quantitative facts, often reflecting surveys of the attitudes of Catholics around the world. An interesting precedent is upon us: If the Western political and media mainstream responds to old fashioned Catholic views by making the responds to did tashioned Carnone views by making the effort to find out what the people themselves want, can we now expect the West also to respond to the views of Islamist and other Third World political leaderships by also making the effort to find out what the people want? The prospects are intriguing, and there will be many opportuni-ties to see this happen in the future.

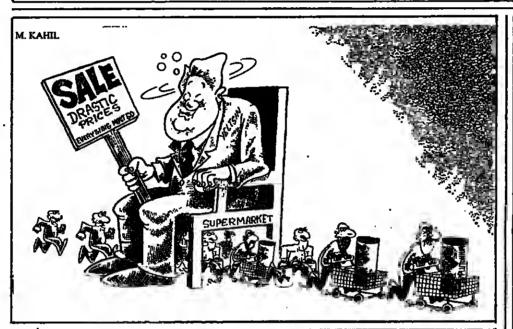
While it may not last very long on the strength of the sexual issues being raised in Cairo, the movel Vatican-Islamist coalition or derivatives of it are likely to reassert themselves frequently, in other forms and other places, in North and South. The handful of states that skipped Cairo or downgraded their representation are, bke the conference itself, only symbols; the real issue at hand is the deeper struggle underway between material secularism and a far older and more pervasive concept of community that is most frequently defined and protected by religious

This is happening in North and South alike. We see the continuing strength of the Christian right in American state politics. We heard the Pakistani president last week ask Islamic states (Islamic, not developing, or brown, or poor, or South states) to pool their energy research in order to face up to anti-Islamic technology emhargoes by the West. We heard the former leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP), Benjamin Chavis, speak of his downfall and attempted political recovery as a "crucifixion (and)... a resurrection". The vital role of the church in leading the American civil rights struggle, the anti-apartheid struggle, and other quests for freedom and justice is well chronicled history. And there are many other examples of the important role of religion and spirituality in the current, temporal affairs of society.

Those who feel threatened or marginalised routinely blend religious and political terms in their rhetoric. The critics of the Cairo declaration are unambiguous: a Saudi Arabian columnist said the meeting was "an attempt to tear the values and beliefs of Islam from their roots," while the Muslim World League charged that the conference's draft document propagated licentiousness and discarded religion; a Sudanese government minister said his country's boycott of Cairo was "a kind of holy war against the new hegemony which some seek to impose on us"; the Pope's chief spokesman charged that the Cairo conference risked becoming "a session called to sanction a current life style in minority_circles of certain oppulent societies," and to impose those values on "the emerging, less developed cultures of our society.

We should not miss the signs of wide and deep discontent that is now being expressed in explicit religious terms by people from the four corners of the globe who believe that religion, politics and society do, indeed, mix, and always have, and always will. Except for the last few hundred years in several dozen novel nation-states astride the North Atlantic rim, all people, in all places, during all recorded time have seen cultic/religious values define their societies. It would be simplistic to expect such a time honoured human reality and historical force to suddenly disappear because the pizza delivery man is at the door.

Editor's note: Jordan Times columnist Rami G. Khouri is spending the autumn semester as a visiting scholar at the Global Affairs Institute, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, fromwhere he will continue to write his column on by-weekly



Swedes catch cold as welfare blanket is pulled away

opposite. They have said

they will cut down." said

Birgitta Johansson, chair-

woman of the conservative

"It's like a competition — the party which cuts the most wins," said a Linkop-

ing taxi driver.
Politicians giving

speeches in front of little

wooden election huts in the

city centre and passing vo-

ters agree that the overrid-

ing election issue is record

farmland, forests and lakes,

has seen its social payouts

rocket to \$26 million a year

from \$11 million a few years

ago, mainly due to the

sharp rise in payments of

unemployment benefits -

The huilding up of the welfare state in the 1950s

went too fast, there was one

said Elis Jarhall, a 71-year-

wouldn't be able to afford

Paying for the welfare

state has left Sweden with a

big budget deficit and huge

debt supporting a massive

social infrastructure - re-

garded in the 1970s as a

global model for social

democracy — that still

guarantees generous sup-

port from hirth to death.

Perspective is important

relative. There are no soup

kitchen queues or groups of

homeless in Linkoping.

Sweden's fifth largest city,

where the jobless rate is

However, unemployment

is a reality that is creeping

into the lives of most peo-

ple. Linkoping, like many

about nine per cent.

in Sweden, where poverty is

"No one told us we

benefit after the other,

old pensioner.

it," he said.

about \$13 million worth.

Linkoping, bordered by

high unemployment.

city council.

By Vibeke Laroi

LINKOPING, Sweden — In the heartland of Sweden, ordinary people are coming to grips with the idea, that the hlanket of state welfare which has kept them warm for decades is slowly being pulled away.

"People waited for Santa Claus. Now they have to participate more actively in solving problems." says Hakon Lofstedt, a Social Democratic Party council-lor in this Swedish city 200 km south of Stockholm.

"Before there was the view that the state and the municipality would take care of everything," he

The thought of a society without the traditional safety net is slowly beginning to dawn on some Swedes. although its attraction still appears to outweight its financial cost.

Opinion polls tip the Social Democrats, who promise to retain most of the country's comprehensive welfare state, to defeat a conservative coalition in the general election on Septem-ber 18.

"The security in this country is so self-evident. I don't think people realise what society would be like if we didn't have it," said self-employed Carina Kal-

"There are no guarantees for anything, but people still think society will fix everything," said Ms. Kalmer, who works at a window repair shop in old Linkoping, the restored town centre made up of preserved huildings from the 18th and 19th centuries.

Many ordinary Swedes wonder where their country is heading.

"We will have to change our welfare state. It's a scary truth which people don't like to talk about," said a 32-year-old hospital

Gone are the days when the centre-left political par-

ties could be relied on to Swedish towns, has a small guarantee full social cover. town feel. Shops are closing, sales of radios and televisions Even the Social Democrats, architects of the wel-

fare state, say they will trim have dropped, hospitals are cutting staff and people are benefits and raise taxes, a campaign pledge which in staying at home rather than most countries would mean taking holidays overseas since the crown fell sharply political suicide. "This is the first time in value. politicians are not promis-"I've been unemployed ing any reforms - quite the for a long time, but I feel

> years old and it isn't easy to get a job at that age." said 22-year-old Cici Edlund. Many students at the University of Linkoping have given up hope after being bombarded with the

more sorry for my father

who is unemployed. He's 45

number of new jobless every week. "It's all just about jobs, jobs, jobs. We're constantly heing told there aren't enough jobs," siad Christ-ian Ericsson, a 29-year-old student. "I don't dare hope

for anything."

Apathy has spread to
many of the 129.000 population, where the main employers are the state or municipality, the university and its hospital and the automotive and aircraft group Saab-Scania.

Some voters in Linkoping, which has swung back and forth between Conservative and socialist local governments in recent elections, said they might vote for the Social Democrats.

They hope the party. which has about half of voter support in opinions polls, would give Sweden the stable, majority government they believe it needs. Others say there is little difference between the par-

"I'm blase. Sweden is in a crisis so things won't get hetter no matter who wins," said Ann Stern, a 33-year-old mother of

"We had a Conservative government after the Social Democrats and that didn't help. It goes in waves. People are disappointed so they may vote for the Social Democrats again."

Russian mafia invades Cyprus law taxing at a rate of 4.25

By Michael Jansen

NICOSIA, Cyprus has de-ported a dozen Russians arrested in August on charges of extortion, con-spiracy to commit a crimin-al offense and illegal pos-session of arms, and is threatening to expel three more charged in court in June for trying to extort money from a Ukrainian publisher based in Nicosia. Cases against all the accused fell apart when victims refused to sign complaints or tesbe "beyond the law," members of a Russian mafia family. It looks like fear of reprisals has placed them "beyond the law" in Cyprus as well as in their home-

These cases have made Cyprus aware of overseas mafia crime which in Lon-don and New York emerged as tax and insurance fraud and drug trafficking. So far the mafia has not taken up such activities in Cyprus. Instead, its "enforcers" have come to Cyprus to extend "protection" to Russian offshore businesses established here and mafiosi have come to launder ill-got gains.

The most flagrant money laundering operations have consisted of Russians turning up at off-shore and onshore banks to deposit suitcases of cash, on occasions totalling \$10-15 million, for transfer to Swiss or other hanks outside Cyprus. However, following a tight-ening of control by the Cyprus Central Bank this sort of activity has fallen off. Instead, mafiosi, acting as legitimate husinessmen armed with credentials from legitimate banks in Russia, establish legitimate offshore firms in Cyprus and launder illegitimate profits by opening letters of credit and concluding fictional deals through which they can inject funds into the international banking

Both these activities are worthwhile because Cyprus has, in the past three years, become a major offshore business and banking centre for Eastern Europe. Since the collapse of the

Soviet system and the conversion of Russia and the countries of Eastern Europe to capitalism, husinessmen from these countries have poured into Cyprus. During 1993 more than half of the 2,892 new registrations of offshore companies were East European, the majority Russian. Four of the 23 offshore banks operating here are Russian and five of the seven banks which have opened representational offices are Russian.

Cyprus developed as an offshore business centre after the adoption in 1975 of a

per cent company profits. Lebanese and foreign businessmen driven out of Beirut by the civil war, which began that year, promptly took advantage of the island tax baven only a half an hour from homebase. Many foreign firms established regional bases here to exploit booming markets in the oil rich Gulf state. By 1983 foreign exchange revenue from the offshore sector had risen to \$40 million and today relion, contributing more than agriculture and rival-

ing tourism.

Eastern Europe entered the Cypriot offshore sector in the late cighties, just as Middle Eastern husiness was withdrawing as a result of a regional slump. Sophocles Michaelides, director of the offshore Banking Unit at the Cyprus Central Bank, said that Eastern Europe has more than made up for the loss of Middle East business. "The money involved is much bigger, the companies involved are much bigger and the volume of trade is much bigger. Eventually Cyprus will be to Russia what the Channel Islands are to Britain" as an offshore busi-

ness and banking centre. The Russians are coming here for several reasons, he asserted. Russia and Cyprus have a very advantageous tax treaty. Russians are looking for a free market and a means of avoiding exchange controls in doing business on the international scene. They can use the island's efficient hanking facilities, its communications networks and enjoy the professional service of Russian-speaking Cypriots, educated in the former Soviet Union. Furthermore, the cost of operating from Cyprus compares favourably with other offshore centres. Cyprus, located at the eastern edge of Europe, is close to the former Soviet bloc; it is Orthodox by religion as are Russians, Bulgarians and Serbs, and Russians, hailing from the cold north, enjoy the island's sea and sun and Mediterranean style of life.

Positive proof of this final attraction is that Russian tourist arrivals have risen to 4.000 a week. To accommodate this flood, the Cyprus government, in May, increased the number of cheap charter flights and package holidays in hotels with Russian-speaking

Since virtually all Russian businesses have some sort of mafia protection at home, it is not surprising that the mafia should follow them to Cyprus and that there should be complaints to the police and arrests of mafia "enforcers" trying to

extend the influence of the mafia families to overseas Russian enterprises. These "enforcers" are much easier for the Cypriot authorities to identify and deal with than are the money launderers. Legitimate businesses and banks. affiliated with the Russian central bank, are easily established by the mafia in Russia because there are no efficient and effective regulatory bodies. (According to the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, which has established an office in Moscow to monitor the mafia, 40 out of 260 banks there are mafia owned). And once a business applying to register in Cyprus has been given clearance by the Russian central bank. the Cypriot authorities are obligated to accept its credentials.

Although an agent of Russia's Federal Counterintelligence Service, the former KGB, told a local businessmen, "Cyprus is the mafia's major centre for money lanndering." the Russians have not provided the Cyprus police with evidence to prove this allegation. And, the authorities here, who carefully examine the books of every offshore enterprise, contend that the volume of business done by Russian offshore companies would not support that allegation. An informed source said Cyprus was prohably being nsed to launder "small change" only, considering the volume of profits generated by mafia activities in Russia and Eastern Europe. The majority of Russians operating from Cyprus are not money launderers but legitimate businessmen although they may be, increasingly, plagued by the mafia "enfor-There are an estimated

5,500 Russian mafia groupings, many of them based on ethnic ties - Ukrainian, Georgian, Tchetchen and Vietnamese. But experts believe that three or four men, all Russians, dominate the entire organised crime scene. The major groups are functional. rather than geographie. They control protection for specific business activities rather than regions. Protection is based on a fixed percentage of turn-over.
The organisation is so secretive that minor bosses and "enforcers" may not even know to which vertical structure their grouping may belong. This formidable underground has flourished in Russia and neighbouring countries because of corruption, the collapse of the moral fibre of the society and a bewildering array of rules and regulations governing business activity.

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Features

Communism's first dynastic succession is in place

By Teruaki Ueno Reurer

TOKYO — Clear signals from North Korea in the past week bave ended speculation about a power struggle to replace the "great leader" switching the spotlight to how his son Kin Jong-Il will lead the nation into the future.

Diplomats believe Communism's first dynastic succession is now firmly in place and they just await the timing of an announcement that the "dear leader' Kim Jong-Il bas taken over the titles of the "great lead-

er" Kim Il-Sung. Kim Il-Sung, who was North Korea's undisputed master for 49 years, died of a heart attack on July 8 after designating his eldest son, Kim Jon-Il, as his successor.

The delay in formally naming Mr. Kim Communist Party chief and state president had set off rumours that a power strug-gle was holding up the appointments.

But in the past week reports in North Korea's media, visits to friendly capitals by North Korean officials and a step up on Pyongyang's diplomatic activities laid the speculation to rest.

"All indications are that the power transfer is underway without a hitch," said Korea-watcher Hajime Izumi of Japan's Shizuoka Pre-

fectural University.

On Sunday, Japan's
Kyodo news agency reported the first visible sign that all was well with an account of North Korean troops replacing badges on their uniforms carrying the elder Kim's photograph with hadges carrying his son's photograph.

Kyodo said the red, Kim Jong-Il metal pins, similar in design to his father's. were first seen on the lapel of commanders of North Korean border guards at cities along the Yalu River border with China.

Kyodo quoted East European military sources in North Korea as saying the badges were probably being mass-produced and had first been given to the

military.
North Korea may announce the succession on Oct. 10, the anniversary of the founding of the ruling North Korean Workers Party, or Oct. 16, the last day of the traditional 100day Korean mourning period, Masao Okonogi of Keio University said.

In the view of some Korea-watchers, Kim Jong-Il's real test starts when he takes over the titles.

"It will be smooth up to the time of Kim Jong-Il's formal succession. But he will face enormous problems immediately after that," Shizuoka University's Izumi said.

Without the stature of his father's role as founder of the nation, the younger Kim cannot expect the same patience from the population in solving its economic woes.

The North Korean economy is widely believed to be in a serious crisis trig-gered by the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The isolated Stalinist state hadly needs massive foreign investment and technological expertise for economic recovery.



Hundreds of cars were lining up to get petrol in Lagos during the strike by oil workers (AFP photo)

Abacha's hardline breaks Nigerian oil strike

By James Jukwey

Reurer
LAGOS — Tough tactics by Nigerian military ruler Sani Abacba bave broken a pro-democracy strike hy oil workers that brought more grief to ordinary people than to the general it was meant to oust.

Gen. Abacha fired strike leaders and appointed administrators to take over the unions.

Then, under pressure from within their own ranks, leaders of the Pengassan and Nupeng Unions called off the strike after two months.

"It is tough to operate when you don't have easy contact with your people and some of them were getting fed up after so many

weeks," a senior Nupeng member told Reuters.

The stoppage started on July 4 to force the release of Moshood Abiola, the millionaire businessman who proclaimed bimself president in June based on the results of last year's annulled presidential election. He is now on trial for

> treason. Suspension of the strike in Nigeria's most lucrative industry gives Gen. Abacha a much-needed respite from the campaign to force him out of power - though it is uncertain if it means an end

to the turmoil. Gen. Abacha, an infantry general who seized power in November amid confusion after the election anulment, ordered the workers

back to their jobs and slammed shut the door 10 any further negotiations on the

strike. Nupeng General Secret-ary Frank Kokori, a fierce opponent of military rule and chief strategist of the striking unions, was arrested along with senior Abiola aides and other leaders of the National Democratic Coalition

(NDC) opposition group. "Kokori's arrest left many of us in a lurch," the senior Nupeng member said.

Union sources said branches from the main oil cities of Port Harcourt and Warri threatened to back out of the strike.

Oil workers in the state sector returned to their jobs

Nigerian supplies, the military government actually earned more for the oil. ordered the strikers back to work. Those in the private sector largely held out although industry sources

been resuming.
That has helped restore fuel supplies, which the strike bad disrupted, causing many other businesses and banks in the country to shut down.

say some, especially road

tanker drivers, have lately

Ordinary people appeared to have borne the brunt of the stoppage, queing for days at pump

stations for petrol. Crude oil exports, Nigeria's main source of foreign exchange, was delayed but not balted and because world oil prices were driven

up for fear of disruption in

At home task forces made up mainly of soldiers were set up by various state governments to supervise the sale of the available fuel to the public.

Petrol was openly hawked on the streets at black market prices of nearly 20 times the official retail price.

"In view of the fact that the ordinary masses are suffering and the military are producing more mil-lionaires from the fuel shortage we decided to suspend the strike," Pengassan spokesman Arthur Onoviran said

Industry sources said the union chiefs may also have

been forced to end the strike because of threats by oil companies to stop paying their striking employees.

Oil companies, including the shell petroleum de-

velopment company of Nigeria, the country's big-gest producer which had been most affected by the strike, have been under pressure from the military povernment to stop paying the strikers. "Shell had discussions

with its Nupeng and Pengassan chapters and made clear to them they will implement the no-work-nopay policy from next week," one source said

Before now the striking workers have been receive

appear almost as often in

the American press as Bri-

tain and Britons, although

once again I have no recol-

lection of any historic hap-

penings on that side of the

Nevertheless, it is true

that vast numbers of the

international corps of cor-

respondents are still found

in Paris and London. It is

likely coincidental that

these are highly congenial

that has been at the top of

our public health agenda

for years. I find more refer-

ences to AIDS in The Post

this year (and over the past

eight years) than to cancer,

stroke and heart disease

combined, diseases which

kill 55 nmes more people

In the early days of the AIDS epidemic, the disease

was novel, its victims were

Large-scale public educa-

tion campaigns were laun-

ched with the help of celeb-

rities from all walks of life.

Books were written. Maga-

zine cover stories and news-

paper series proliferated.

Condoms enjoyed a great

boom in sales and in popu-

larity with both sexes -

also with schoolchildren.

Lobbies were organised.

Demonstrations were

staged. The funding of

But so little has changed

during these years that the 10th annual International

Conference on AIDS voted

recently to stop holding

annual meetings because

"new ideas were few and

far hetween." The meetings

will now be held every two

Will the lack of AIDS

progress affect our cover-

age? We can only wait and

see, but I doubt it. Some

subjects stick to the agenda

like Crazy Glue. Mean-

while yesterday's popular

killers — cancer, heart dis-

ease et al. — continue to

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Post's attention, is at the

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Russia's bad lad says Zhirinovsky not nasty enough

By Vanora Bennett - Reuter

MOSCOW - Life is war for Eduard Limonov, the leather-clad bad lad of Russian radical politics, who complains the country's quarrelling Communists, ultra-nationalists and intellectuals are just not aggressive enough.

"I don't even mind if some people are on the opposite side of the front line, but intellectuals today are indifferent. That's much worse. I wish they'd be my enemies, but they are just deserters," he said.
"They've left the battleficid.'

Mr. Limonov, a writer whose bomosexual reminiscences shocked a prim Russian readership, bas taken up politics in a big way since returning in 1991 from 17 years' exile in the West, signing up with opponents of President Boris Yeltsin's reforms.

But Russia's modern-day jean genet is running out of allies. Sitting in a horrowed apartment, he told Reuters most radicals, bis exfriends, had connived with Mr. Yeltsin at selling the country to the "vampinsing" West. Russia had gone to the dogs.

'quick civil war" would be a better way to solve his country's problems than the humiliation it was enduring now, he said, dressed in the crop-headed, all-black, leather-jerkined, bare-armed fashion of the movie guerrilla.

"War is certainly undesirable, to put it mildly, but we are not scared of war because what our country is living through now is even worse than war," Mr. Limonov said.

"For nine years our country has been declining. From 1991 it has been declining with even greater speed. We are a nation in agony. I prefer a quick civil war to that situation."

Mr. Limonov says he has proved he is ready to put his money where bis mouth is. He has fought alongside the Bosnian Scrbs, traditional Slav Orthodox allies of

"I've been in five wars. You see, it probably sounds bizarre but the level of life of the population in Russia is much worse than that, say, in Serbian Krajina."

"People there are fed they're defending their own country with weapons... in their hands. Yes, of course it's a risk to be killed but they have dignity.
"We are humiliated today, but the Serbs have kept intact their dignity. They are heroest."

The Russian press shed new light on Mr. Limonov's escapades in Bosnia last year, saying the Bosnian government had put a \$500,000 price on his head.

On his 50th birthday, on February 23, Mr. Limonov and his cronies held up a post office for nearly two hours, in honour of the Soviet Red Army day holi-

Mr. Limonov says he chose his side of the barricade two decades ago. when he was kicked out of the Soviet Union and wrote his autobiographical first novel "It's me, Eddy."

As well as a story line about a man disappointed in love, experimenting with sex and shocked by emigre life in the United States, the book criticised the Sovietera opposition figures Andrei Sakharov and dissident writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn.

It is only since bis return that Mr. Limonov bas really had a chance to develop his ideas in the tumult of post-Soviet politics.

There has been plenty of action to get his teeth into. A broad spectrum of noisy Yeltsin opponents formed in the Soviet-era parliament which survived until 1993. Mr. Yeltsin outlawed the

parliament last September and opposition figures barricaded themselves inside the White House parliament building for two weeks.

The siege ended in battle when the conservatives, Communists and nationalists in the White House launched an attack on the Moscow television station Ostankino. Mr. Limonov

More than 60 people were killed that night as Mr. Yeltsin's troops rebuffed the attack. At dawn the next day, Mr. Yeltsin's tanks fired on the White House. The opposition sur-

rendered.

With at least 147 dead according to the official death toll, he imprisoned ringicaders and called elections to a new parliament in December.

Mr. Limonov went off his friends - the Communists of Gennady Zyuganov and the ultra-nationalists of Vladimir Zhirinovsky when they accepted seats in the new parliament despite having been on the side of the White House rebels. Now he denounces them

as cowards who have com-promised with the "occupa-

tion government."

Zhirinovsky as a dangerous ultranationalist, a rallying-point for the country's envy-ridden have-nots, Mr. Limonov says Mr. Zhirinovsky is a fake."

"Although mod-

erates see Mr.



Vladimir Zhirinovsky

Mr. Zhirinovsky, whose bizarrely-named hard-right Liberal Democratic Party (LDPR) won 24 per cent of Russia's votes in the December poll, is the focus of much of his rage.

Although moderates see Mr. Zhirinovsky as a dangerous ultranationalists, a rallying-point for the country's envyridden have-nots, Mr. Limonov says Mr. Zhirinovsky is a fake.

He has published a book denouncing him, saying bis is really the namby-pamby Liberal Democrat that his party's name suggests. "He's not a nationalists.

He's a real liberal democrat, just stealing our slo-gans to get power," Mr. Limonov said. "His personality is very tyrannical. He's certainly going to be a dictator, brainless apparently, a kind of Russian Idi Amin.

"But he's much more a promoter of capitalism than Mr. Yeltsin. And Mr. Zyuganov is a real, rosy social democrat. He's con-

mixed economy." Mr. Limonov says the only politicians of principle left are Viktor Anpilov, the radical Communist, and Alexander Barkashov, the radical nazionalisz.

Together, they are planning

stantly talking now about a

revolution. They plan to close fore-

ign firms and establish an economic iron curtain. They will put Mr. Anpilov up for 1996 presidential elections, although Mr. Limonov admits he's unlikely 10 win,

"We're talking about a revolution which will make Russia finally the Russian state and the state of Rus-sians," he said.

Presses must roll

By Richard Harwood

CARLIN Romano of the Philadelphia Inquirer begins an essay on selecting the news with a quotation om the sainte

Lippmann: 'All the reporters in the world working at all the hours of the day could not witness all the happenings in the world." Nor all the happenings in a city, county, state or nation.

We "witness," as a matter of fact, very few of the events and people we choose to write about - a murder in the city, a typhoon in Tonga, a failed coup in Comoros. We do not lurk behind curtains in the Oval Office or sit in cabinet meetings. Nevertheless, space must be fil-

led, and presses must roll. "What does the press cover?" Mr. Romano asks. "The off-the-cuff answers come quickly. What it feels like covering. What sells papers. What the competition is covering. What it can get into the paper by 10 p.m. What it has always covered Facts, Govern-

ment. What's important." Beyond these traditions and robotic habits we apply "values" to determine what and who is news, to determine our agendas, to determine what people "ought" to read and think about. We get a lot of help in making these determinations from other agenda setters: presidents, run-of-themill politicians, pressure groups of every description, lawyers, corporations and a "spin" industry that constantly messes with our minds.

I ran a little test on The Washington Post, attempting to learn something about its news values and agenda for 1994.

What's important? What's not? Who and what makes news, and why?
The Post's computers tell

us we have published more items this year about people and events in Britain than about any other nation on Earth - China, Japan, Russia and Germany included.

For whatever reason, I'm unable to recall any great happenings in Britain this year, with the possible exception of the annual golf tournament. They've got the same queen. They have not gone to war with France and have not acquired any new colonies in Asia, Africa or the Middle East. No one has run a two-minute

France and the French

That's easy. The president of the United States, whoever he is. He has no earthly rivals or unearthly rivals for that matter. Bill Clinton, as of Aug. 16, was a subject in 5,445 stories vs. 1.197 for the "Supreme Being." His wife. Hillary

The writer is a former ombudsman of The Washington Post.

(700), gets third place.

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economic, said Joseph Gor-

"annual sales of \$0.5 hillion.

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Secretary Ron Brown's trade

agaington's Asian policy ses new economic realities

John Bryson, chairman of Southern California Edison Co., a major U.S. utility that . Note: samm ay mitness. worth of contracts in China. said he has never seen the U.S. government and business work so closely together in developing overseas export and the rest of hardest entructs markets particularly in Asia.

The United States gov-

ernment is an extremely effective partner and advocate for the United States business community," said wir. Bryson, also a member of the delegation. We are very pleased by the leadership provided by the commerce secretary.

Mr. Brown said that for the first time in its history, the United States has developed an export policy that will actively use America's political power and diplomacy to win contracts for its com-

panies overseas.
"This is a new partnership

between the U.S. government and the U.S. business community, said Mr. Brown, whose trip to China yielded more than \$6 billion contracts for U.S. companies. "And we are only at the beginning of what we can priorities has to be creating jobs for Americans."

This new policy under U.S. President Bill Clinton has come under criticism for giving business concerns priority over other issues, such as human rights, especially since Mr. Clinton renewed China's most-favoured-nation trade status in May despite mounting abuses by Beijing.

But Mr. Brown contends that "commercial engagement," with U.S. businesses leading by example in an economically expanding China, is the best way to improve

role within the Chinese market would almost certainly be less concerned than we would be about issues such as hu-man rights," he said.

Delegation members said the United States had also been falling behind European countries, particularly Germany, France and Britain, because of the soft loans or aid they provide to Asian countries tied to projects involving companies from their respective countries.

and legitimate tools at our

disposal to ensure that we

Mr. Brown said the United States export bank is taking a new aggressive approach in linking development loans and grants to projects involving American companies.
"We will use all the fair

Tariffs and Trade. win the market share that we An experienced GATTexpect in China, in Hong watcher said Mr. Ricupero's admission that he hid bad financial figures to boost the presidential election campaign of his ministerial predecessor Fernando Henrique Cardoso "must at best spoil his chances for the WTO."

GENEVA (R) — A political scandal in Brazil bas strongly

boosted the chances that

Mexican President Carlos

Salinas de Gortari will be-

come head of the new World

Trade Organisation (WTO).

diplomats and analysts said

Brazlian Economy Minis-

ter Rnbens Ricupero, who

resigned at the weekend, was

widely seen as the main rival

to Mr. Salinas for leadership

of the WTO, due to come

into being next year under the GATT trade treaty

maining seriously in the race after this affair," said one trade envoy whose country

had favoured the Brazilian, a

widely-respected former

ambassador to GATT, the

General Agreement on

"I cannot see Ricupero re-

signed in April.

bas the implicit backing of the United States and many Latin American countries to become the first head of a world trade body from a developing country, was already viewed as the frontnumer for the post. Many trade officials and

Mr. Salinas, who already

Brazil scandal boosts chances of

Mexican to head world trade body

diplomats say that his record as a president who ditched the protectionist policies of decades and turned Mexico into an open economy would help give political weight to the fledgling WTO. They point to the role of

Mr. Salinas, who steps down later this year, in establishing the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) which links his country with the United States and Canada - unthinkable under previous Mexican administra-

GATT chief Peter Sutherland, who bas said he does not want the job, gave Mr. Salinas an effective plug last week by praising Mexico for becoming the first NAFTA country — and only the third GATT member — to complete legal approval of the

The new body, if the treaty signed hy over 100 countries in Marrakesb, Morocco, in April is ratified by the major trading powers, will absorb the GATT - set up as a

temporary body in 1948.
Mr. Ricupero supporters
bad argued that his intimate knowledge of the workings of international trade and the links between trade and en-vironment which will be a key issue for the new body made him better prepared to give it a quick start-up.

If the Brazilian, whose

fateful remarks were delivered as an aside before a television interview, does withdraw, Mr. Salinas will still face stiff competition from two other declared candidates — with dark horses perhaps waiting in the

wings.
The European Union is expected to endorse the candidature of former Italian trade minister Renato Ruggiero, although there is buile sign that be has much support among other countries in the 125-member GATT outside

But trade diplomats and officials say that during the summer backing appears to bave increased for South Korea's Trade Minister Kin Chul Su who has spent his entire career in trade posts and visited Geneva to lobby support in July.

Mr. Kim has the support of Australia and is expected to win formal endorsement from most if not all members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and could garner backing elsewhere in Asia

A possible compromise in case of deadlock in the select tion process, from which a consensus candidate is expected to emerge in November after consultations among GATT members, is New Zealand's Trade Negotia tions Minister Philip Burdon,

But a strong challenger could come from Sweden where Prime Minister Carl Bildt — a proponent of free trade and open markets -faces possible defeat in an election next month and may be looking for an international post, diplomats say.

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Spring Present

China's economic supremo could barely sleep from high inflation

BEIJING (R) — China's infignion last month was over 20 rper cent, an official newspap--er reported Monday - and ... the country's economic sup-... remo was quoted as saying ... he could barely sleep for werrying about price rises.

The China Information Cally called the August figure to for annual inflation intoler-. Zöle for some people.

er it did not say whether it - type referring to the retail sales price index in major cities of the residents con-.... sumer price index for the whole country.

Inflation in trajor cities in Guly stood in an annual 24.2 pri tent and for the whole Colonity in June was 20 per

cractically cannot Zhu Rongji, viceprimies in charge of the ecowas cucted by Hua Ching newspaper as saying in a spreach last month.

Mines. The best own is the grown is high mayer and high relisation. There we hope the in year is high growth, a rmin na Teoló nogés endiów 1 lone" he said. Tiế **we do** the coulder food prices, of grounding and it

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"Annual inflation for the whole year is likely to be 20 per cent, more than double the official target," said one Japanese economist, speaking of the major cities index.

"The best way to cut inflation is to reduce the money supply but this immediately affects state firms, many of which live off bank loans. This is a very unpopular policy. It is very bard to strike the right balance between inflation and unemployed," he said.

Li Jingwen, head of the economics department of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, painted three sce-narios for 1994 in an article in Saturday's Science and Technology daily.

The most favourable was for GDP growth of 10-11 per cent and inflation of 15 per

The second envisaged GDP growth of 13 per cent and inflation of about 20 per cent, forcing the government to impose a strict deflation policy and curtail many of its reform policies.

Mr. Li said the worst case was GDP growth of less than 10 per cent, inflation of 20 cent, a sharp rise employment, a drop in living standards and stagflation, which would also lead to a halt in many reforms.

While the likelihood of the second and third scenarios was low, he said, the risk remained.

Fresh in the mind of policymakers is the last serious

hout of inflation, which peaked at an annual 18.5 per in a year cent in 1988, then a post-1949

A fierce deflationary policy cut it to 2.9 per cent in 1990 but slowed growth sharply

and threw millions out of The Japanese economist

said the leadership wanted a "soft landing" this time but that looked increasingly diffi-Inflation especially hurts

retired people or workers in is-making state firms. Tens of thousands have been sent home from such firms and are being paid a subsistence wage of as little as 100 yuan (\$11,60) a month. Many ordinary Chinese be-

lieve Beijing bas lost the ability to control inflation because it has turned over so much of the economy to market forces which ignore government orders.

The government issues price ceilings hut shops ignore them," one factory worker said. "People huy fewer and fewer goods in state shops, where prices can be controlled, because the quantity and quality of their goods is shrinking.

"But the government need not fear street protests. We learnt our lesson after 1989. You complain with your friends and family but take it

no further," he said. In June 1989 student protests caused in part by infla-tion were crushed by the

Kong, in Asia and around the world," Mr. Brown said. Chile sees trade pact with U.S.

or two SANTIAGO (R) - Chile's Finance Minister said Sunday be boped his country could sign a free trade accord with the United States in two years that would revolutionise the Chilean financial sys-

"When Chile bas a bilateral accord signed with the United States and eventually with Mexico and Canada, there will be a revolution in the national financial system," said Finance Minister Eduardo Aninat.

"I bope this happens in a year or two, at most," he said in an interview published Sunday in the Santiago daily El Mercurio.

He said Vice President A! Gote called him last month to confirm to him that Chile was next in line to join the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

"He gave us an optimistic vision, that things were going well," said Mr. Aninat, referring to the possibility of Chile joining NAFTA. Chilean and U.S. officials

have still not officially decided wbether to make Chile the fourth partner in NAFTA or seek separate bilateral pacts between Chile and NAFTA's three current members.

In Brazil & Jordan Since 1975 Most analysts see both sides leaning toward NAF-TA, although a decision is In Amman: Amra Hotel Shops. 6th. Circle not expected until later this

Turkey draws up new sell-off strategy

ANKARA (R) — After several false starts, Turkisb Prime Minister Tansu Ciller's government has drawn up a new privatisation strategy which officials expect it to be submitted to parliament by the end of next week.

The government is now awaiting comments from the political parties before putting the final touches on the draft bill, officials said Mon-

Two earlier laws, approved by parliament, were annulled the constitutional court aftet opposition deputies and even some from Ms, Ciller's coalition partners challenged the measures as illegal.

After the past failures, Ms. Ciller is now seeking a mandate for the delayed eightyear-old sell-off programme -a key part of her economic

Under the new draft, shaped after a series of interparty debates last month, Turkey will give priority to the sale of state banks, accounting for nearly half of the banking system.

It proposes creation of a privatisation undersecretariat and a safety net for employees who may lose their jobs as well as introduction of an anti-cartel law.

Turkey will also maintain a 'golden share" in some firms in stategic sectors, including energy, telecommunications and defence. It will sell the right to operate mines rather than ontright ownership.

The government will create a privatisation fund to prevent use of the proceeds to

finance buge budget deficits.

A high board of privatisation, to consist of the prime minister and three other key

ministers, is to be in charge of choosing the firms to be privatised or closed down.

Privatisation officials said the draft could be further changed in line with criticism from the political parties.

"But I don't expect any major changes. I hope the draft will receive parliament's approval this montb," a

senior official said. "Then we will be mobilised to seli sbares in Turkey and abroad.

He said Turkey would offer shares on domestic and foreign capital markets as well as selling in blocks. "We don't bave too many choices. We have to use all present sale mechanisms."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Forget the old and what has been recently frustrating as you focus your anention on investigating any sort of new interest that will provide you with more worldly

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Forget about arguing with others because your ideas are different. Keep your promises. Do nothing to upset your position of security.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Complete the work at hand before going into a new interest which could take more time than you anticipated. Be conscientious. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Use your good judgment; your hunches could be unreliable today. Steer clear of arguments, and

avoid being social tonight. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Don't permit households

matters to deter you from making progress possible. Don't lay into your mate over something trivial. LEO: (June 22 to August 21) Concentrate on important rouones now and handle communications tomorrow. Think very construc-

tively and logically. VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Try to meet the wishes of family as much as possible and avoid any new financial commit-

ments. Don't argue with someone in business. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) If you get into a family argument, you can carry through very nicely with affairs at hand. Don't overspend for pleasure. Be sensible.

SCORPIO: (October 23 10 November 21) Get busy at being constructive and stop worrying over something you can do little about. Don't lay into family over something small.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Contact experts and find out how to add to your income. Take care while driving on the highway. Relax tonight with your loved ones.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Exercise care in the handling of finances now, or you could make expensive errors. Be more concerned with personal matters.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Collect as much data confidentially as you can in order to formulate a plan. Avoid a group affair where arguments could start. Be happy.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) This is a good day for communicating and improving conditions around you. Don't irritate a fellow associate. Forget your wornes.

Birthstone of September: Saphhire - Lapis Lazulli

















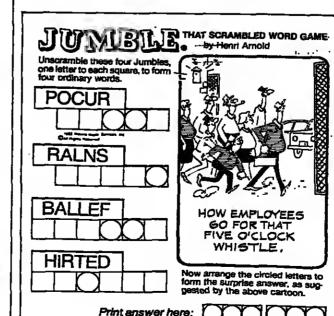


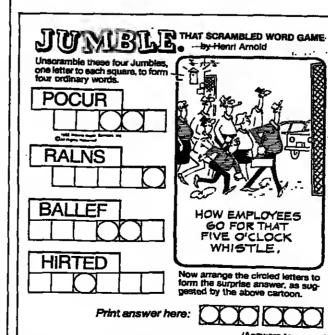
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A source of inspiration

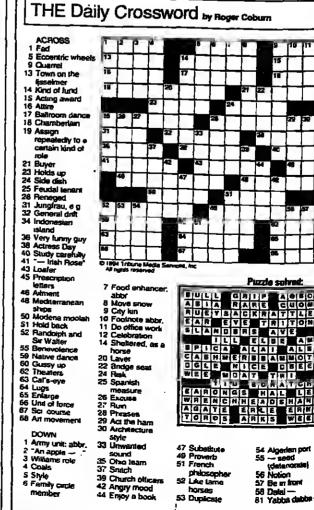
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Jumbles: LISLE SIEGE DINGHY WHALER Answer: What the law made the crooked butcher see the error of —HIS WEIGHS







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ances of trade body

But trade diplomati officials say that during the hacking annual to the treaty summer backing appears have increased for for Korea's Trade Minister & countries 10000, in the major Chul Su who has spent to entire career in trade par and visited Geneva to be ll absorb up as a 1948. apporters

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Mr. Kim has the support Australia and is expected win formal endorseme from most if not all members of the Association of So East Asian Nation (ASEAN) and could gate backing elsewhere in Au

A possible compromer case of deadlock in the let tion process, from which consensus candidate is a consensus candidate is a pected to emerge in Nova ber after consultations ame GATT members. is No Zealand's Trade Negunations Minister Philip Burda

But a strong challenge could come from Swell where Prime Minister C Bildt — a proponent of fig trade and open markets faces possible defeat in election next month and ne be looking for an international post, diplomats say.

ff strategy

down. als said further THEFT

senior official said. 'The we will be mobilised to w shares in Turkey and abroad."

He said Turkey work offer shares on domestic as foreign capital markets a well as selling in hlocks. "W don't have too many choics We have to use all present sale mechanisms."

PROSCOPE

: TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 1994 . Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundater

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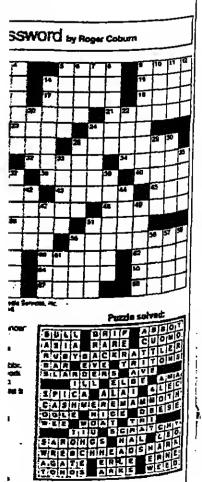
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Saphhire — Lapis Lazulli





Financial

New York Clase	Tokyo Close
Date 2/9/94	Date 5/9/94
1.5475	1.5460
1.5550	1.5567
1.3065	7.3085
5. 3255	5.3282**
99.13	99.05
1.2975	1.2263**
	1.5475 1.5550 1.3065 5.3255 99.13

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Surecurrency Interest &	rtes	1	Date: 5/9	/1994
Сигтепсу	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.62	4.75	5.06	5.56
Sterling Pound	4.\$1	5.51	5.75	6.37
Deutsche Mark	4.68	4.75	4.87	5.81
Swim Franc	3.93	4.06	4.25	4,62
French Franc .	5.25	5.43	5.27	6.72
Japanese Yea	2.43	2.31	2.37	2.62
European Currency Unit	5.52	5.71	6.83	6.53
Interbed, hid rates for amounts exc	erding U.S. D			

5/9/1994

Сигтенсу	814	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6950	0.6970
Sterling Pound	1.0730	1.0784
Deutsche Mark	0.4461	0.4413
Swiss Franc	0.5301	0.5335
French Franc	0.1303	0.1370
Japanese Yen*	0.7000	0.7035
Dutch Guilder	0.3976	0.3996
Swedish Krone	*****	44444
Italian Lira*	0.0442	0.0444
Belgian Franc	******	*****
Par 100		
Name American		

/ E	•			
Other Carrencies	Date: 5/9/1994			
Ситевсу	Bid	Offer		
Bahrafai Dinar	1.8270	1.2400		
Lebanese Lira*	0.040885	0.041975		
Sandi Riyat	0.12503	0.18600		
Kuwaiti Diner	2.3150	2.3480		
Qutari Riyal	0.1897	0.1909		
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150		
Oment Riyal	1.7860	1.8100		
UAE Dirham	0.2788	0.2156		
Greek Drachma*	0.2780	0.3155		
Cypriot Pound	1.3915	1.4985		

ceremony this month

date.

ground breaking ceremony on Sept. 21 to launch the postwar reconstruction of central Beirut, company ehairman Nasser Chamaa

The event, which will start what the company calls "the major urban redevelopment of the 1990s," will be sponsored by Lebanese President Elias Hrawi, Mr. Chamaa told Reuters.

Solidere, formed in May with \$1.82 billion capital, is poised to start reconstruction hut has not yet chosen a contractor for the first stage of the infrastructure work, Mr. Chamaa said in a weckend interview. Eleven hids have been

opened, ranging from \$63 million to \$136 million, hut the board of directors has not yet decided which to choose. The infrastructure work, expected to take 18 months.

includes roads, utility net-

works, tunnels and hridges,

SO, OF TENDED AMARIES IN PARALLEL MARKET TENDED VILLEGI IN THE PARALLEL HORSET

BEIRUT (R) - Lebanon's landscaping and laying out Solidere company will hold a public squares and spaces. Asked when the work would begin, Mr. Chamaa said: "We're working on this.

I doo't want to commit on a

"It's aiready happening. The demolition is ongoing and we're working out details of the contract with the infrastructure contractor," he

demolishing war-damaged buildings and shifting an estimated three million tonnes of rubble from the 1.8 million square metres sitc. Explosives, wrecking balls

Solidere has already begun

and bulldozers have swiftly demolished 120 buildings in recent weeks, creating a vast empty lot in the heart of the city open to the Mediterra-

Feyrouz, the Lebanese singer famed throughout the Arah World, will give the reconstruction of Beirut an .emotional sendoff with a concert at the site on Sept. 17

Solidere ground-breaking | Arab Gulf countries to seek technology-for-oil deal with Japan

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Arah Gulf states will ask Japan to help them acquire industrial technology in return for stable crude supplies when they meet in Tokyo in November, a Gnlf official has

The Nov. 7-9 conference in Tokyo will attract hundreds of officials and husinessmen from Japan and its main oil suppliers in the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), said Abdul Rahman Al Jaafari, secretary general of the Doha-hased Gulf Organisation for Industrial

Consultancy (GOIC). Mr. Jaafari, quoted by the official Emirates News Agency WAM, said the meeting would focus on bolstering economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation with Japan, the top single commercial partner of the

'There are several spheres of cooperation to be discussed at the conference, includ-ing oil and gas, which Japan needs for a long time to come. We will also discuss what Japan can offer the GCC countries to help them diversify their economies through investment and the

bullion markets Monday.

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needed Japanese technology for water desalination, environmental protection, agriculture and solar energy.

The conference will be the second between Japan and the GCC states, which have been locked in talks with major industrial powers to ohtain technology needed for setting up new industries to reduce their reliance on oil.

The two sides met in Bahrain last year and agreed on regular contacts to discuss boosting relations and eventually sign an economic cooperation pact.

The talks followed criticism by GCC officials that Japan's investments in the region did not match the strong ties between the two

According to official figures, Tokyo's investment in the GCC stands at around \$4 hillion, compared with its total foreign investment of more than \$386 hillion.

Canadian dollar

Dentschemarks

Dutch guilders

Swiss francs

Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Danish crowns

Swedish crowns

Norwegian crowns

Italian lire

By contrast, Japan is the GCC's higgest commercial partner, with their two-way trade standing at around \$35 billion in 1993. It is the top importer of Gulf oil, receiving nearly 60 per cent of its total crude imports from the supply of technology," he said.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling

rates for leading world currencies and gold against the

dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and

1.7445/55

1.3070/80

32.01/05

5.3245/95

98,90/00

7.6763/63

6.8250/00

6.1400/50

\$1.5466/76

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Japanese officials expect the level to exceed 70 per cent by the year 2000 as demand in Japan is rising steadily and other sources of

Gulf is growing. Japan has sought long-term crude supplies from the GCC, which controls around 45 per cent of total proven world oil reserves.

supply are declining. Mean-

while, output capacity in the

But the GCC countries -Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arah Emirates. Qatar, Bahrain and Oman want Japan to embark on joint ventures to help them ohtain technology.

The United States and the European Union argue that the Gulf market is too small for major projects and investment laws need to be im-

"The conference comes Gulf states have starte boosting their oil and g production capacities an new investment opportuniti are emerging in the region a GCC official told AFP.

We will again explain our Japanese partners th cooperation will benefit all us. They could have a re able, long-term source of o supply hnt we also want reliable source of technol-

The Rivadh-hased GC scerctariat has alread started asking region husinessmen about ways enhance trade links with Japan by increasing non-c exports. It urged them present proposals ahead the Tokyo meeting.

Shanghai market stages stunning bull run

Chinese domestic stocks staged a stunning bull run in Shanghai Monday, eclipsing percentage gains on other Asian stock markets with a 13 per cent surge in the A share index.

rean share prices made the of the year.

kets, Hong Kong's Hang Seng ended 60.48 points, or 0.61 per cent, higher at 9.962.04 after climbing to a peak of 10,064.86. Tokyo's Nikkei-225 average ended down 244.65 points, or 1.18 per cent, at 20,409.18.

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HONG KONG (R) - 11Outside China, South Ko-

most ground, with the composite index soaring 2.29 per cent on what hrokers in Seoul said were renewed hopes the bourse would rally by the end In the region's major mar-

Shanghai's A-share added

116.98 points, or 13.66 per cent. to 973.48 on record turnover of 15.49 billion yuan (\$1.8 billion), topping the former record of 12.8 hillion yuan (\$1.5 hillion) on Aug.

Institutions, major, ind vidual share-holders ar small investors went on buying spree, their conf dence boosted by news th Beijing was pressing ahea with a plan to invite foreig funds into the domestic A share market, brokers said

In Seoul, brokers reporte strong huying aeross th board, pushing some primar blue chips to record highs an lifting the composite inde 21.73 points higher t 969.61, close to the day's hig Brokers said foreign inves

tors, particularly U.S. an Japanese funds, led huying i Hong : Kong while many loca investors sought to take pro

"This was a rally of pur fear and greed — fear the were missing out and greed i the need to squeeze out the last drop," said Nial Gooding, head of research a Kleinwort Benson.

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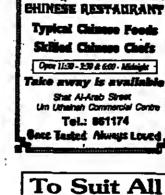
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American cars lose ground in Saudi market

DAMMAM, Sandi Araba (AP) — General Motor (G.M.) and other U.S. aut manufacturers are losin ground in Saudi Arabia, con pany representatives bay

General Mortors saw sale in its largest export mark decline by 10 per cent in the first half of this year, deale reported.

G.M. sales are expected slip another 10 per cent in the second half of the year amid general slump in the Saumarket.

The kingdom absorbs on third of total G.M. prodution. General Motor accounts for an estimated ' per cent of all American ca imported by Saudi Arabi G.M. dealer Amir Al Zah

Dealers hlamed rising flation for a drop in auto sale in a market where gasoline cheaer than drinking wat and the population is spres out over much of the Arabis Peninsula.

Saudi Arabia, the world largest oil-exporting natio is facing economie difficultibecause of the slump in wor oil prices and the cost of ti 1991 Gulf war.

Last year, auto sales Saudi Arabia dropped by per cent, hut the big thruU.S. car-makers — G.M. Ford and Chrysler - co ceded only five per cer They sold 39,000 units 1993 compared to abo 41,000 the previous year. Chrysler suffered the mos

losing 19 per cent, while Fo shed seven per cent ar G.M. 5 per cent. The biggest slump was th in passenger cars, whe Chysler posted a decline more than 40 per cent in th category against Ford's 6.1

per cent, according to stati tics released by Saudi Ar bia's G.M. dealers associ Light trucks and pickur

did slightly better. Mr. Zah said sales of large utiliti grew by 3.5 per cent, primal ly because of a good showing for the GMC Suburba which consolidated its mark share by about 50 per cer

IOC takes new steps to combat doping in sport

PARIS (R) — The Interna-tional Olympic Committee (IOC) intensified the fight against doping in sport Monday by adopting clear guide-lines to athletes and federalions in a long-awaited and far-reaching medical code.

The code lists all banned substances as well as acceptable medications and lays down standard penalties for offenders in a 78-page docu-ment which IOC medical chief Prince Alexandre de Merode described as a "cornerstone" of the doping bat-

De Merode also moved to clear up other confused areas of doping in sport by piedging urgent talks to stop what he called "intolerable" situa-

national Amateur Athletic

Federation (IAAF) appeared

to ease the pressure on Britain's women competing in

this weekend's World Cup

when General Secretary

· Istvan Gyulai conceded Mon-

day they were "legally not

The team's participation

was thrown into doubt by

Diane Modahl's positive dop-

ing result in Portugal, but the

"I have chosen my words

carefully after studying the

legal situation during the weekend." said Gyulai.

Games organisers Monday

asked the head of the Olym-

pie Council of Asia (OCA) to

et them know which heads of

state he has invited to the

event as a disastrous Chinese

boycott of the games looms

· The invitation issue involv-

ing OCA President Ahmad Al Fahad of Kuwait has

turned into a diplomatic and

security nightmare for

Japanese officials for the

games which open on Oct. 2 in Hiroshima.

The main worry is an OCA

invitation issued to Taiwan

which has led China, the

since 1986, to threaten to

"We are urging the OCA

Asian Games champions

... boycott the games.

....President Lee Teng-Hui

British Atheltic Federation

: - '-announced last week they in-

tended to compete.

incorrect" to take part,

Tour de France champion Miguel Indurain and British runner Diane Modahl.

De Merode said talks would be held with governments in an effort to get them to accept the IOC banned drugs list and not to enforce

Indurain faces a bearing in France this week for taking salbulamol during a cycle race in May even though he took it through an inhaler for a respiratory problem, a treatment allowed by the IOC and the International Cycling Union (UCI).

But salbutamol is totally banned under a lough French

IAAF concede Britain athletes

tion's headquarters in Monte

the end result may still be the

same, that is they will have

their results annulled. But

they are not incorrect to com-

British team spokesman Tony Ward said, "1 am very

pleased the 1AAF have

changed their attitude and

now seem to be agreeing with

what we have been saying all

Gyulai's statement is a de-

parture from the IAAF's

more hardline approach last

week when they insisted,

both publicly and privately,

that the British team should

Asian Games organisers work

to end Chinese boycott threat

headquarters in Kuwait to send a list of OCA president-

invited guests. But we have

not received any answer from

the OCA," said a Hiroshima

Asian Games official.
In Kuwait, an OCA official

said Ahmad was out of the

country until next weekend

and had no comment on the

and officials from 42 nations

are due to take part in the

quadrennial sports event

from Oct. 2 to 16, competing

The OCA is the sponsor of

the games and Hiroshima

organisers are worried time

is running out to put the

finishing touches on staging

Asia's biggest sporting event because of uncertainty about

China's participation.

record 7,300 athletes

in 54 sports.

along.

speaking from the federa- be withdrawn from the com-

'Regrettably for Britain.

'legally not incorrect' to run

'It's ridiculous to think that athletes must have a dictionary of doping laws before going into every single country to compete," de Merode told a news conference. "It's intolerable."

Modahl's case, where there was a nine-week delay in reporting the findings of a positive a, or first sample, of a dope lest, was also unacceptable, he said.

De Merode said the 1OC would put pressure on accredited laboratories to speed up their processes and would also talk with international federations on ways to avoid such delays.

Britain's participation was jeopardised after 800 metre runner Modahi tested posi-

rively for testosterone in Lis-

bon on June 18, a week be-

fore earning maximum points

for Britain in the European

The results of that test

were not known until nine weeks later. The "B" test

sample produced a second

positive result on Aug. 30

and Gyulai's statement on

Monday was based on those

"At the present time, and

until she is banned following

a nearing, her suspension

dates from Aug. 30, the date

are worried that with less

than a month until the games

they do not know how many

major guests they will need to

made by the OGA president

without consulting with us.

So far, we have not heard

(from the OCA) of any other

Games officials are mysti-

fied why the OCA president

would invite only one Asian

They are even more mysti-

fied, and some officials even

angered, at why a group like

the OCA which is charged

with overseeing sport in Asia

would he so unaware of the

sensitivity of the China-

heads of states heing invited to attend the games," the

official said.

head of state.

The invitation to Lee was

de Gijon's David during their Spanish league France shun Paris to heal Bulgarian trauma

FRANCE'S Soccer team embark on a crucial international campaign in Slovakia this week, hoping to heal a string of traumas by qualifying for the 1996 European Championship in Britain.

Their first match in qualfying Group One, on Wednesday in Bratislava, will also be the first official tie for manager Aime Jacquet, who replaced Gerard Houllier in the wake of the biggest trauma of all — France's 3-2 defeat hy Bulgaria in Paris last November which stopped

The shock was such that Jacquet, who claims an unbeaten record of five games since he took over last December, said his team would not play at the Parc des Princes for the time being to avoid the hostility of Parisian

suffered in Paris against Bulgaria, we cannot have France playing there again soon. The trauma is too deep," he told French daily Liberation.

he added. For that reason, France

nia in St. Etienne next month Players confirmed the pain

Paul le Guen said. For Jacquet, who will have to do without injured stars Marcel Desailly and Jean-

The Bulgaria defeat. however spectacular, was but the climax of a string of poor results in official competi-

pean Championship in Sweden, in which their poor showing led national legend

Croatia 2, Estonia 0

Opening the qualifying matches of the European championships, Croatia made a triumphant debut Sunday in its first-ever major qualifying tournament, overpowering Estonia 2-0.

Davor Suker scored both goals in the one-sided matchup of Group Four teams. The Sevilla striker drove in

the first goal just a minute hefore halftime. Midway through the second half, he dashed any Estonian hopes for a draw when he weaved past defenders and tapped the ball past goalie Mart

Only a series of impressive saves by Poom kept Croatia from running up the score in the game, played in front of a sparse crowd.

Croatian players repre-sented Yugoslavia, since splintered, in past international soccer competitions.

Estonia played in the European Championships before World War II, but Sunday's match was the country's first since regaining independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

Israel 2, Poland 1 Ronen Harazi scored twice

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ROMARIO LOSES: Barcelona's Brazilian match Sunday. Gijon defeated Barcelona 2-1 soccer star Romario (right) dribbles Sporting (AFP photo)

them reaching the World Cup

"After the hard blow we

'We'll get more support from a provincial crowd for a

have decided to host Roma-

was not erased yet. "I know that the defeat (by Bulgaria) will haunt me for the rest of my life," defender

Pierre Papin on Wednesday, leading France to the European Championship finals is a

must.

Since playing the semifinals in the 1986 World Cup, the French have only made it to one official team competi-

over Poland on Sunday. Harazi broke open a dull, lifeless game and gave Israel the lead in the 43rd minute,

Michel Platini to resign. "My only goal is to lead this team to the European Championship in England. If 1 make it, I'll be the happiest

man on earth," Jacquet said. "The Euro 96 is a spring-board for the 1998 World Cup. We need to go to England to smell the flavour of high-level competition ahead

In 1998, France will host the World Cup finals and for once will not have to go through the qualifying stages. But they are keen to prove in the meantime that they can make it to the top the hard

ing.
The Poles resorted to a more direct aproach in the final 25 minutes. Roman Szewczyk missed a chance from 30 metres in the 70th minnte, but Roma Kosecki finally scored in the 79th minute, volleying a cross from substitute Ryszard Czerwiec

from 5 metres. The poles continued their pressure until the final whistle but failed to finish their

taking a through pass from Tal Banin and heating

onrushing Polish goalkeeper

Yosef Wandzik from the cor-

oer of the penalty area.

Playing before 4,000 in

Ramat Gan Stadium outside

Tel Aviv, Israel maintained

pressure after halftime. Full-

back Marko Balbul beat

three defenders only to see

his 20-metre shot strike the

inside of Wandzik's post in

Three minntes later Harazi

added the eventual game winner, pouncing on Haim Ravivo's through ball with

the Polish defence backtrack-

the 55th minute.

The game marked the first time Israel has played in the European Championship. Although it has played as part a member of Asia, Oceania and Europe in international competitions, in 1991 the country was formally accepted as a permanent member of UEFA and invited to participate in its com-

Sunday's victory put it atop qualifying Group 1, ahead of Azerbaijan, France, Roma-nia and Slovakia, all of which play their first games Wednesday.

Cowboys open NFL season with win

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylva-

Two-time defending Super champion answered any doubts about how they would perform under new coach Barry Switzer, giving Jimmy Johnson's replacement a 26-9 victory over Pittsburgh here Sunday on the opening day of the National Football League

(NFL) season.
"We knew there would probably be hell to pay if we didn't win," running back Emmitt Smith said. "Despite all the distractions, we're a team that is very determined. The Cowboys are fine. Just leave us alone and quit trying to tear us apart.' Smith, NFL rushing cham-

pion the past three years, ran for 171 yards and a touch-down against the Steelers. Quarterback Troy Aikman directed Dallas to scores on their first four drives and the Cowboys took their first step toward a third Super Bowl title next January in Miami.

"We're going to do it," receiving Alvin Harper said. "We're going to take it all the way to Miami." Switzer, who was retired for five years before making

Dallas his first NFL asignment, downplayed his role. "The cowboys win because they're a team and 1 have better players than Jimmy started out here with," Swit-

zer said. Johnson was watching on television as part of the commentary team for the Fox network. The billion-dollar TV deal hy Australian-born Rupert Murdoch was well re-

ceived by most accounts. The Dallas game was also noteworthy for having a fan rush onto the field and evade several policemen before falling to the ground where he was handcuffed and arrested before a national television audience.

William Thompson was charged with disorderly conduct and defiant trespass after rushing onto the field and shaking hands with two Dallas players late in the fourth

Sports

Unser wins in Va

Mansell, Fittipa

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Top playmakers opened the season with exciting efforts. Joe Montana, who guided San Francisco to three San Roul files, three season states three seasons. Super Bowl titles, threw two touchdowns to spark Kansa City past New Orleans 30-17

Montana completed 24 of 33 passes for 315 yards.
Miami's Dan Marino suffered a torn Achilles tendon and missed the final 11 games of last season but returned with the second-largest passing game of his career. Marino completed 23 of 42 passes for 473 yards and five touch downs as the Dolphins railied to beat New England 39-35. "I don't bave to prove any.

thing to anybody," Marino said. "I've been playing in this league for 12 years." The biggest surprise came in Indianapolis, where rookie rusher Marshall Fanik gained 174 yards and scored three touchdowns for the Colts in a 45-21 rout of Houston. He rushed for 143 yards and scored on runs of 1, 2 and 11 yards. He also gave the Colts their first opening-quarter touchdown since 1992.

Buffalo, which lost the pass four Super Bowls, showed poor form in a 23-3 home loss to the New York Jets. They had not lost an opener since 1987 and had won 12 of their past 13 games against the

Jason Hanson's 37-yard field goal in over-time lifted Detroit past Atlanta 31-28. Scott Mitchell's 15-yard touchdown pass to Anthony Carter with 30 seconds remaining in regulation forced the extra session. Mitchell and Atlanta's Jeff George each threw three touchdown

In other games, Arizona edged the Los Angeles Rams 14-12, Cleveland beat Cincinnati 28-20, Seattle dumped Washington 28-7. Chicago beat Tampa Bay 21-9, Green Bay edged Minnesota 16-10 and the New York Giants tripped Philadelphia 28-23.

Le Jingyi smashes record at world championships

ROME (AP) — Chinas Le zi Van Almsick winning the Jingyi made a stunning start bronze in 54.77. to the swim events at the World championships Monday when she sliced almost half a second off the world record for the women's 100 metres freestyle.

With record holder Jenny Thompson swimming in the next lane, Le was first into her stroke in the final and had the race won by halfway as she powered to the gold medal in 54.01 seconds.

Another Chinese swimmer, Lu Bin, also beat Thompson's two-year-old mark of 54.48 to finish second with Germany's Fran-

Thompson, who broke her arm in May but has since returned to form, finished fourth in 55.16 but found her record had been broken by 0.47.

"I'm a bit tense," Le said after her swim. "To finish in 54.01 that is a new world record is like a dream come true.'

Le, who was fastest qualifier, led the field almost as soon as she hit the water and reached the turn in 52.79, half a body length ahead of her countrywoman.

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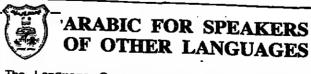
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announces that the Intensive Course in Modern Standard Arabic for Speakers of Other Languages will commence The programme is intensive. (Classes are in the morning and meet for 20 hours per week, Saturday - Wednes-

Those interested please call at the Language Centre for registration or further information. Registration begins Saturday, Sept. 10, 1994.

Colourful Christie rebounds

SHEFFIELD, England (AP)
— Linford Christie, wearing an outfit that featured some of his press clippings, broke his three-race losing streak Sunday with a victory in the rarely-run 150 metres at the Sheffield International Meet. Christie, world and Olym-

pic 100-metre champion, out-sprinted fellow Briton and world 200-metre silver medalist John Regis to come home in 14.97 seconds, Regis clocked 15.15.

"Although 1 have lost three races, 1 have still won the championship medals and that's what really matters, said Christie, who was second to American Dennis Mitchell in the 100 at the Grand Prix final in Paris Saturday. Jan Zelezny, who broke the world javelin record here

last year, overcame the damp conditions to win the event again with a throw of 91.82 meters, the longest in the world this year.
The Sheffield meet is the

traditional welcome-home event for British athletes at the end of the Grand Prix season, and Christic often uses the occasion to wear his most flamboyant outlits.

"It breaks up the mono-tony," said Christie, sporting the white suit with newspape headlines such as "Truc Brit." "People come to this meeting to see what I am wearing and 1 like to give them something different.

while having your favourite drink - or meal Have lines much as you can MON'S STITUR'S Fare funds find the band the live of the land the live of the land the live of the land the l Dince Viell's VII Ante Eoreign









The Language Centre at the University of Jordan on September 17, 1994 and will last for 16 weeks.

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Buffalo, which lost the pa

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (R) — Al Unser Jr. started the weekend in bed and finished in the winner's efforts. Joe Montana, V circle late Sunday, as Britain's Nigel Mansell survived a crash with Brazil's Emerson guided San Francisco to be super Bowl titles, three touchdowns to spark kake Montana completed 24 of passes for 315 yards Fittipaldi at the Vancouver

Snffering from food poisoning, Unser was too weak to attempt qualification Friday and was barely able to climb into his Penske Ilmor Sammday.

Sports

Unser wins in Vancouver

On Sunday he survived the numerous crashes, spins and flat tires that plagued everyone else and slowed the average speed to 89.166 milesper-hour for the 102-lap race.

"We're pretty sore inside, but winning makes you feel better," said Unser, celebrating his third straight victory, eighth this year and 27th in his Indy car career.

Pole sitter Robby Gordon, forced to make extra pit stops caused by two flat tires and the loss of a third gear, finished 2.239 seconds behind

Unser. The brakes on Michael Andretti's Reynard Ford Cosworth kept locking up, causing him to hump into Canadian Paul Tracy and others, but he survived to finish third.

Mansell, the defending series champion who is winless this year, appeared in top form, leading from lap 37 until his final pit stop on lap

The Briton fell to sixth and was challenging Fittipaldi for third on the final lap, when they crashed in the last turn. Fittpaldi was credited with ninth and Mansell tenth.

Unser took on the lead on lap 77, running a very con-servative race. "We watched

Mansell, Fittipaldi crash other," he said, adding that his team owner roger Penske coached him on the radio. "Roger called a perfect race," Unser said. "He to told me when to pit and when not to pit.

With three races remaining in the series, Unser has a commanding 56-point lead over Fittipaldi, 193-137.

Mansell's bid to break a yearlong victory drought ended with a typical crash with his friend Fittipaldi, a two-time world champion.

Early in the race, the 41-year-old Mansell shadowed leader Gordon and took advantage of his foe's punctured tire to take the lead, which he continued to hold until his second and final pit

"We hit the yellows (caution flags) wrong all day to-day," said Mansell, who slipto sixth place after a poorly-timed pit stop.

"It was a strange race," team manager Jim McGee explained. "We tried to do the fuel right, but the yellows fell wrong. By all rights, the guys in front of Nigel at the end should have been running out of fuel, but the

yellows helped them all." The day turned from bad to worse in the last turn of the last lap. Mansell had climbed back to fourth and was challenging Fittipaldi for third, when he hit the Brazilian

from behind. "A champion like Nigel shouldn't do that," Fittipaldi said. "He tried to stop his car with my car., It's a shame. The last corner of the last lap, and Nigel came like a torpedo. And there was no car room between my car and the

GOREN BRIDGE

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.I - Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ***965** AK6 KQ654 +AQ The hidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 1 + 1 NT Pass

What do you bid now? A.—You were currect not to open one no trump—your fifth diamond makes the hand too strong. But that doesn't mean you should go over-board now. North should have a hand of 9-10 points, perhaps less because West's overcall might have improved the positional values. A raise to three no trump is adequate.

Q.2-Both vulnerable, as South you hold: +QJ72 963 85 **4**KJ94 The hidding has proceeded: North East South West

North East

Dbl 1 • Dbl ? What action do you take? A.—Don't let an opposing takeout double stampede you into an action you might later regret. Simply dis-regard the takeout double and make the response you would have had there been no interference. Raise to

-As South, vulnerable, you hold:

+Q95 Q6542 Q84
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East S
1 + Dbl 3 + P
Pass 3 + Pass ?
What action do you take? dding has pruceeded:
North East South
Dbl 3 + Pass
3 + Pass ?

A.—You might have acted over East's preemptive club raise. However, now partner is showing a very good hand by hidding three spades vulnerable. You have a sure trick in the queen of spades, a possible ruff-ing value and some other goodies. Raise to four spades.

Q.4-Both vulnerable, as South you hold: 474 "Q1098653 5 4J83

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 7.
What do you bid now?
A.—We would not fault you for simply bidding two hearts, either directly or via a transfer sequence if that is in your arsenal. However, you can't be sure the hand hebmes hearts as a two-way action -you might make it, or you might pre-empt the enemy out of a good

Q.5-Both vulnerable, as South KJ10975 KJ 4AJ4 ding has proceeded:
West North East
Pass 1 NT Pass

What to you but now!

A.—"What's the problem? Three hearts?" we can almost hear you saying. The problem is that that's our second choice. With so much of our strength in secondary honor and outside the long suit, we prefer a role to long and trilling. a-raise to Iwo no trump.

Q.6-Hoth vulnerable, as South you hold: •AJ74 83 AKJ7 +984 The hidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1. Pass 1 + Pass
2 + Pass ?

What do you hid now?

A.—With a full opening bid, no particular liking for either of partner's suits and the unhid suit well ners saits and the unit sait was supped, all ingredients are present for a mi-frump contract. But he careful to jump to three mi-frump — two mi-frump would be invitational and might get passed.

Morocco lose as

World Cup hangover

continues JOHANNESBURG (R)

Morocco's World Cup hangover continued on a weekend of surprise results at the start of the African Nations Cup qualifying cam-

paign. The North African team, who lost all three of their matches at the World Cup, were beaten again in their first qualifying match for the 1996 nations cup finals in Кепуа.

They were among several group favourites to drop points against unfancied

The Moroccans, who were the only one of Africa's World Cup representatives playing Sunday, surrendered a halftime lead to go down 2-1 Burkina Faso in their Group Seven match in Ouagadougou.

Abdoulaye Ouedraogo and Abou Ouattara scored in the second half for the home side after Taher El Khalej had put Morocco ahead after 30 mi-

The Burkinabe were not the only surprise package as the Gambia, Mauritania and Ethiopia also upset the odds.

The Gambia, only occasional participants in African soccer tournaments, won an unlikely point away from home in holding Congo to a I-I draw in their group three match in Pointe-Noire.

Peter Johnson scored in the 38th minute for Gambia before Ivorian-based midfielder Sylvain Mounkassa salvaged a point for Congo with

a 68th-minute goal, Mauritania also surprised by forcing a goalless draw in senegal in Group Two while Ethiopia held off a confident Algerian team in another scoreless tie in Gronp Four. There were also good wins

for Ghana, South Africa, Tunisia and Zimbabwe. The new-look Ghanaian team beat Sierra Leone 4-1 in Accra to top the standings in Group Three while South Africa ended Madagascar's 10-year unbeaten home re-

cord with a 1-0 win in Group -ive in Antananarivo. The game's only goal was a header from Leeds United striker Phil Masinga in the

21st minute. Tunisia, seeking to make up for the disappointment of their performance at the 1994 finals in March, won 3-I away at Guinea Bissau in Group Two, while Zimbabwe thrashed Lesotho 5-0 in

Group One in Harare. The five-goal haul for the Zimbabweans included two for midfielder Vitalis Taka-

Tanzania thrashed neighbours Uganda 4-0 on Saturday, with the first three goals coming inside the opening

quarter-hour. There was also a rare international goal for former African footballer of the year

George Weah. The Paris St. Germain striker scored the only goal of teh game as Liberia beat Togo 1-0 in their Group Two match in Monrovia.

Edberg has only himself to blame after U.S. Open defeat

NEW YORK (AP) — Stefan Edberg has only himself to blame.

For years, Swedish tennis players took their clue from Bjorn Borg, roaming the baseline and depending on heavy topspin to pull the ball down into the court.

Then along came Edberg and his serve-and-volley game, cimbing to no. I in the world and winning six Grand Slam titles, including two U.S. Opens.

Sunday night, Edberg met his clone — another Swedish serve-and-volleyer — and on this night, Joans Bjorkman

Bjorkman had the bigger serves, the crisper volleys, the more penetrating ground strokes. And whenit was over, it was Bjorkman who had a berth in the U.S. Open fourth round following an easy 6-4, 6-4, 6-0 victory over the fifth-seeded Edberg.

like Stefan's game, so I've always been looking at him, how he plays, and try to do the same thing," Bjorkman Sunday night, he did it

The came I play is exactly

better than the real thing. Bjorkman next foe will be Joern Renzenbrink of Germany, a 6-4, 6-1, 6-3 winner over Italy's Andrea Gauden-

In other third-round matches Sunday, top-seeded Pete Sampras overtook Roger Smith of the Bahamas 4-6, 6-2, 6-4, 6-3; no. 4 Michael Stich defeated Byron Black of Zimbabwe 7-6 (7-5), 6-2, 6-1; no. 14 Yevgeny gained some confidence. Then he didn't really give me a chance because he was serving very well."

Kafelnikov of Russia stopped

Spain's Carlos Costa 6-3, 6-4,

6-2; Karel Novacek of the

Czech Republie outlasted

Todd Woodbridge of Austra-lia 1-6, 5-7, 7-6 (8-6), 6-2, 7-6

(7-3); Argentina's Javier Fra-

na eliminated Marcos

Ondruska of South Africa 6-3, 6-1, 6-7, (3-7), 3-6, 6-4; and Jaime Yzaga of Peru

defeated last year's surprise

finalist, Frenchman Cedric

Pioline, 1-6, 5-7, 7-5, 6-1, 6-4.

quarterfinals were second-

seeded Arantxa Sanchez

Vicario, no. 5 Kimiko Date,

no. g Gabriela Sabatini and

Ann Grossman 6-2, 6-2; Date stopped Leila Meskhi of

Georgia 6-2, 6-7 (5-7), 7-5; Sabatini ousted Elena

Likhovtseva of Kazakhstan

6-2, 6-1, and Fernandez

Edberg fell down on the

first point off the 10th game

of the match, appearing to injure his right wrist. But he

said it was not a major factor

before it started feeling a

little bit better, but it prob-

ably cost me the first set a

little bit." Edberg said. "It

was had timing, hut it didn't

bother me the rest of the

little bit. He got away with

the first set and I think he

"I lost the momentum a

"It took a couple of points

in the loss.

match.

downed Ginger Helgeson 6-

Sanchez Vicario defeated

Gigi Fernandez.

Advancing to the women's

The only service break in the second set came in the final game, when Bjorkman broke at 15, Edberg doublefaulting on set point.

From then on, it was all Bjorkman, finding angles and passing lanes or booming unreturnable serves.

"I was really solid in my serve and volley and never made any easy mistakes," Bjorkman said. "And in the third set, I finally got my returns going, then every-

Everything except Edberg when the match ended 1 hour, 35 minutes after it

Sampras, seeking his third Grand Slam title of the year — his only loss was in the French Open - had a tougher time than the score might indicate. Smith, the second qualifier Sampras has played in his three matches so far, gave the world's no. 1 player problems with his slice backhand, taking all of the

"When I started, I didn't have the timing," Sampras said. "I felt a bit sluggish. I managed to get through somehow. He serves pretty well, and I had a hard time with that. It was a good

"He has a pretty good serve and he massages the ball well. He has that chip

pace off the ball

match to get through.



in victory after his third round win over fifth-seeded Stefan Edberg at the U.S. Open in New York. Bjorkman won 6-4, 6-4, 6-0 (AFP photo)

low. 1 didn't know what was coming. It took me a while to get used to his game." Smith fought back from 5-0

Sampras closed it out. "I didn't want it to end," Smith said. "It was a great experience. It was a great feeling, a great week, I love it in the fourth set, winning three straight games before

.S. defender Lalas living a dream in Italy

PADUA, Italy (R) - Alexi Lalas is living out his dream of playing in the world's best soccer league - but that won't change his bohemian way of life.

"Cut my hair?" Lalas, 24, the goatee-bearded hero of the U.S. World Cup team said at a recent warm-up with Padova, the club he joined last month to become the first American to play in Italy's

Serie A. "You've got to be kid-

ding."
Clubless and unknown before the World Cup, the former high school ice hockey world famous footballer, playing against the likes of Italy's Roberto Baggio and Dutchman Ruud Gullit.

And despite the language barrier, he's getting on well. He and his girlfriend Jill have a home in the hills around this city near Venice. He loves the pasta, weather and wine, but most of all the soccer culture.

"Italians live and breathe the game," said Lalas, tos-sing back the shock of ginger hair that has helped give him the most original look in soccer since Gullit first arrived with his dreadlocks.

"The fans, the press and the emotions that surrounded this game - especially Serie A - is something no American player has ever experienced." he said in an

interview with Reuters. The guitar-strumming Lalas, who cut a compact disc with his rock band the Gypsies and plans to record



another one soon, said nothing had prepared him for stardom but vowed it would not change his ways.

"It's not that I can't pick my nose in public any more. lt's that when I do, I have to do it really cool," he said. "Some people have said, this is Serie A, you can't play music', but I don't see it that way. I need music in my life

to do anything on the soccer field."

He said his band was coming over soon "to hang out and play some acoustic stuff in some local clubs." England fans, who remem-

ber the Lalas header which sealed a humiliating 2-0 defeat to the U.S. in a friendly last year, will see him Wednesday when the two sides meet in a friendly rematch in London.

Critics once said Lalas. who has 50 caps in two years but never played club soccer before joining newlypromoted Padova on a oneyear deal worth some \$200,000, would never make it as far as Serie A.

"Throughout my career, people have said there's no way you can play on the Olympie team, there's no way you can play on the national team, there's no way you can play in the World Cup and have success," Lalas

"But you know, here I am

— in Italy," Lalas, whose weakness may be a lack of speed, called short-list for FIFA's World Cup ail-stars team ahead of such talented defender as Brazil's Aldair and Italy's

Alessandro Costacurta. Bnt Lalas, who scoffed at the suggestion that he was one of the world's best defenders, has also proved his met-tle in his first two games in

In his debut last Wednesday, an Italian Cup match won 3-0 by Internazionale. his diving header off a corner kick nearly put Padova ahead first were it not for a miraculous save by Italy goalkeeper Gianluca Pagliuca.

"Man, I thought it was in." Lalas said. "He made a sweet save, but I didn't see it — my face was in the mud."

The newspaper Gazzetta Dello Sport voted Lalas, who sent another headers just wide in the second half, his team's most valuable player

for the match. Corriere Dello Sport news-

stopper's imposing frame. said: "What striker wouldn't be just a little frightened of Padova's opening match in Serie A Sunday was a bapt-

paper, commenting on the

ism of fire for Lalas as Samo doria thrashed them 5-0, but coach Mauro Sandreant said Lalas was already up to par and needed only refine his "He needs to improve his

coordination with the team and become a little more elegant in his moves, but his air game is a formidable offensive weapon which we plan to exploit fully." San-

Italy coach Arrigo Sacchi has also praised Lalas, and fellow defender David Ballcri said the American had a good rapport with teammates despile having to communicate in a jumble of English, Italian

and Spanish. Lalas, who studied English iterature at New Jersey's Rutgers University - where he gave up a future in professional ice hockey in a gamble on soccer — said his Italian

was getting better. "My teammales have taught me all the bad words." He said his new dream was to play like his idol - AC Milan and Italy defender

Paolo Maldini. 'After all. it doesn't matter whether you play the guitar, what you look like or what your hair is like — if you can't do it on the field then you're no good to any-

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Yemeni Socialists oust old leadership, elect new bureau

Party (YSP) elected a new politbure on Monday and turned its back on its leaders who fled abroad after the country's two-month civil

The new politburo was to meet again later the same day to replace the party secretary general. Ali Salem Al Beidh, who escaped to Oman just before the war ended on July

Delegates said they would also draw up an outline of the party's new political programme, following the south's defeat by northern troops.

The new body has kept only seven of its original 25 members, adding 14 people from the YSP central committee to the body, they said.

One of the incoming members of the trimmed-down politburo. Othman Abdul Jabbar, told AFP that the new body was the "legisimate leadership" of the party.

The election came at the end of four days of talks in the Yemeni capital where more than 200 party members pledged to support Yemen's four-year-old unity.

They rejected the secession of the south declared by Mr. Beigh on May 21, after war broke out between his forces and northern troops loyal to President Ali Abdullah Saleh

It followed months of ten- on July 7.

SANAA (AFP) — The sion between the two leaders southern Yemen Socialist on how to run the country, which was created out of the merger of former Marxist South Yemen and the conservative North.

Mr. Abdul Jabbar said the 18 dropped members of the politburo who had sought refuge abroad would not be thrown out of the party. They could join the party's central committee if they returned to

Seven of them are on a list of 16 southerners who are excluded from a general amnesty declared by Mr. Saleh at the end of the war. Mr. Saleh has said the 16 should be tried as traitors and war criminals.

The president has called on the YSP several times since the enri of the war to elect a new leadership excluding the "separatist" leaders as a condition for playing a role in Yemeni politics.

Abdul Jabbar said the new politburo would aim to relaunch the party and decide on whether to take part in a new government.

The YSP is still one of three parties in the ruling coalition along with Mr. Saleh's general People's Congress and the Islamic Al Islah. It has four ministers.

Most of the southern leadership fled the country when northern troops captured the southern stronghold of Aden

Carlos remains silent at Monday's hearing

PARIS (R) — Guerrilla mastermind "Carlos the Jackal" rcfused to answer a judge's question about a 1982 Paris combing on Menday, saying he was illegally arrested last month and should be freed, justice sources said. Carlos handed anti-

terrorism judge Jean-Louis Bruguiere a letter at the start of the meeting saying he was being held "in complete illegality" since he was seized in Sudan and spirited to France three weeks ago.

"I intend to keep silent until the legal system makes a definite ruling on my request and frees me, the Venezuelan-born guerrilla wrote, the soutces said.

Catlos's lawyers filed a formal suit last Friday alleging he was kidnapped from Sudan and should be freed, they doubt the suit will succeed as a French court out plan to go as fat as the European Court of Human Rights.

Under what authority am I here before you? I was in Khartoum, capital of Sudan, when Sudanese police stopped me, tied me up, drugged me, put a hood over my head and handed me to French police," Carlos wrote.

France has said he was extradited legally.

Carlos, 44, arrived smiling at Mr. Bruguiere's office in central Paris amid tight security. His hair was short and greying and he wore a striped grey jacket, white shirt and yellow scarf. He greeted Mr. Bruguiere but was otherwise

Carlos, whose real name is Illich Ramirez Sanchez, won notoriety with attacks in the 1970s and 1980s, mainly in Europe and the Middle East.

France has accused him of killing 83 people, his most audacious act was to kidnap 11 ministers attending a conference in Vienna in 1975 of the organisation of perroleum exporting countries. any political quarrel."

Monday's hearing, only the second time Carlos had left the drab La Sante jail since his arrival in France, was to be the first detailed questioning about a car bomb blast that killed a pregnant woman and wounded 63 people outside the Paris offices of the Arah newspaper Al Watan.

At his first meeting with Mt. Bruguiete the day after his arrival in France, he was formally placed under investigation in connection with the bomb attack.

The attack coincided with the start of a trial in Paris of Carlos's girlfriend Magdalena Kopp and another urban guerrilla on arms and explosives charges and was seen as an attempt to win their release.

In a statement smuggled from La Sante prison, Carlos wild be week he rad nothing w do with the blast and was not in Paris at the time. Francoise Rudetski, who

heads an association of victims' relatives, said there was enough evidence to bring him to trial. The attack, in Rue Mar-

beuf near the Champs Elysees, is the only one for which Carlos is formally under investigation in France.

He was sentenced in absentia to life imprisonment two years ago for killing two French secret service agents

The Paris government has blamed him for the deaths of 15 French people in France. Investigations into other attacks are being reopened and Mr. Rudetski vowed to keep up pressure to expose the full workings of Carlos's

Victims have waited for 12 years," she said. "The main thing is to know the full truth on the responsibility of Carlos and of other people who were involved, without

France proposes Cresson as EU commissioner

PARIS (AFP) — France has rominated former socialist prime minister Edith Cresson as one of its two new European commissioners, a joint communique from the presideacy and the prime minis-

ter's office said Monday. Mr. Cresson, 60, who became France's first woman prime minister in May 1991, soon came under fire for her blunt speaking. She attacked the British, saying many of them were homosexuals, and the Japanese, who she said were "ant-like" people intent on "taking over the

Named by President Francois Mitterrand to restore the flagging fortunes of the Socialist Party on May 15, 1991, Ms. Cresson ended her 321-day term in office in the following April as the most unpopular French premier in

Critics said she had trouble getting along with both the opposition and members of her own socialist party.

A former European affairs minister. Ms. Cresson was named along with Breton aristocrat Yves Thibault de Silguy, 46-year-old European affairs advisor to Prime Minister Edouard Balladur. They would succeed Jacques Delors and Christiane Scrivener as representatives of France of the European Commission in January 1995.

After resigning as prime minister. Ms. Cresson, a ferveni advocate of greater European integration, returned to the private sector and formed a company aimed at helping French firms compete better in the European

SYDNEY (AFP) — A member of the New South Wales parliament was killed in a suspected drive-by shooting Monday in what was believed to be the first assassination of an Australian politician in

Labour Party MP John Newman was shot outside his home in Cabramatta, a Sydney suburb with a large Asian community where he had campaigned vigorously against crime.

'He went outside at about 9.30 р.m. 10 put a cover over his car, his wife and neighbours heard shots." New South Wales police spokes-woman Wendy McGuiness

"His wife went outside to investigate and found him slumped across the front

Neighbours saw a car drive

Australian MP killed in drive- by shooting off immediately after the

shooting with its lights off, she added. Police said Mr. Newman, who was also known for a campaign for better condi-

tions for immigrants detained in Australia, was shot several times in the chest. George Souris, the acting leader of the state's National Party, said he believed it was the first assassination of an

Australian politician in That is probably the reason why Australians will find it a most un-Australian act and one which will strike at the very foundation of our

dom of speech and in par-liamentary democracy." Police Minister Garry West said he had not been told Mr. Newman was in danger. "There has been no indica-

Australian beliefs in the free-

tion or any advice to me in the time I have been police minister." he said.

Asked if the death was related to Asian gangs, against whom Mr. Newman was said to be campaigning, Mr. West said be did not know.

Newman's widow is Chinese-born Xian Jing Wang, who has been an Australian resident for four years. She and Mr. Newman had been married just a few

Mr. Newman's first wife, and their only child. David. died in a car accident in 1979 when Mary was pregnant.

Mr. Newman had been member of the upper house legislative assembly since 1986. He was educated at Liverpool High School and Sydney University.

Jordan moves to mend ties with Gulf

By Rana Sabbagh

AMMAN — Jordan's ties with Gulf states, strained since the 1990 Gulf crisis. are moving on a steady course towards reconciliation, officials and diplomais said Monday.

But they ruled out any mminent breakthrough with the Kingdom's main past Arab bankrollers Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, power-brokers in the sixnation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Riyadh and Kuwait were angered most by Jordan's perceived sympathy to-wards Iraq after it invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

Jordan's ties with Qatar have been fully restored while relations with Oman were unharmed by the crisis. Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are the other two GCC mem-

Islamic countries will meet

here Wednesday to develop a

notably Bosnia, Kashmir,

Afghanistan and the Middle

East, a foreign office spokes-

The three-day extraordin-

ary conference of foreign

ministers of the 51-nation

Organisation of Islamic Con-

ference (OIC) is to be inau-

gurated by Prime Minister

Benazir Bhutto, the spokes-

country is to have action-

oriented decisions on all the four burning issues," the spokesman told AFP.

The issues required some

political direction from the

OIC foreign ministers which

will enable the Islamic states

to adopt certain positions at

the upcoming United Nations

General Assembly, he said.

here Tuesday to prepare the

agenda of the main confer-

Some 20 ministers, among

them 14 foreign ministers.

have already confirmed their

participation, despite India's

lobbying for a boycott, he

said, adding that the response was "better" than the pre-

vious emergency meening of

Islamic foreign ministers in

At least 45 members of the

OIC have decided to send

Turkey last year.

Senior officials are to meet

"Our objective as a host

man said Monday.

man said here.

bers.
"Our relations with Saudi Arabia are moving in

the direction of a breakthrough," a senior Jorda-nian official, who requested anonymity, told Reuters. "But we still need a lot of time before our relations go back to their pre-crisis status."

Jordan and Saudi Arabia have agreed to increase the number of diplomats in their respective missions to four, instead of two at present — an example cited by Jordanian Officials as an indication of "new goodwill to mend fences. Riyadh was also "looking

positively" ar Amman's nomination of a new ambassador to head its mission there, a post vacant since 1992 when Jordan recalled its envoy as ties worsened, he added. "We expect to hear their reply in a month," said the official.

HI-TECH: Victor Co. of Japan Ltd. of JVC crystal monitor, priced at \$1.450. In addition

announced Monday plans to launch October, to the monitor, the camera also features a

the multi-functional "televideo movie" video-messaging system and a VHF-UHF tun-

camera, featuring a bright three-inch liquid er to enable viewing of regular television

OIC foreign ministers meet

Kashmir's Indian leaders invited

sion, convened at "short

notice," he said. Bosnian

delegation to the conference.

out Afghanistan's representa-

tion because the country's

factions had not agreed on a

The OIC bas invited two

prominent leaders from

Indian-controlled Kashmir to

The two are Umar Fatooq.

Kashmir's chief Muslim

dergyman, and Abdul Ghani

Bhat, Foreign Secretary Na-jmuddin Sheikh told repor-

They have been invited

along with leaders from the

Pakistani-administered part

of Kashmir to meet with OIC

Secretary General Hamid Al

Gabid and delegates from

Islamic states during the con-

hope that the Indian govern-

ment would allow the Kash-

miri leaders to visit Islama-

had, especially Mr. Farouq,

to present "their case before the OIC," adding that "it

would be unfortunate if it

expected to discuss formation

of an OIC contact group on

Kashmir, like the one already

functioning in relation to

Bosnia, in order to keep a

vigil on developments in

He said the conference was

does not.

Mr. Sheikh expressed the

foreign minister.

the meeting.

There was no decision ab-

in Islamabad tomorrow

common strategy over key Prime Minister Haris Siladi-international trouble-spots, zic would lead his country's

broadcasts, (AFP photo)

It fired most of Jordan's diplomats a month after the Iraqi invasion, allowing only the envoy and one diplomat to stay behind.

Riyadh recalled its envoy to Jordan in October 1990 and since then has only kept a charge d'affaires and another diplomat.

Jordanian officials said the Foreign Ministry has not received any formal request from Rivadh to appoint a new envoy, but Amman-based Arab diplomats have speculated as such since Jordan signed an interim peace deal with Israel in July.

A senior Jordanian diplomat visiting Kuwait this week for the first time since the Gulf crisis was warmly received despite Gulf war strains. Jordanian officials

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad

3

The meeting is also ex-

pected to cail for a peaceful.

negotiated settlement of the

Kashmir dispute between

Pakistan and India and ex-

press its concern over the

human rights situation in the

The spokesman said India

sent out envoys to a large

number of Islamic countries.

urging them not to attend the

that a vast majority of our

friends and brothers have re-

fused to heed to the Indian

The last conference met at

Karachi in April 1993, when

the Islamabad peace accord

on Afghanistan, which ended last June, was still in place.

This week's conference will

aim to promote a reconcilia-

tion among the warring fac-

tions through consultations

and a call for a cessation of

will take a decision on recom-

mendations of an OIC con-

tact group which met recently

in Geneva. It called for con-

firmation of territorial in-

tegrity of Bosnia-

Herzegovina, protection of

safe areas, lifting of an arms

embargo and the monitoring

of weapons supplies to the

and Pakistan on Kashmir has

The rival claims of India

Bosnian Serbs, he said.

triggered new tensions.

On Bosnia, the conference

hostilities, he said.

"Pakistan is very happy

Indian-controlled part.

Islamabad conference.

pressure." he said.

Al Sabah even met Jorda-nian Foreign Ministry Counsellor Mashour Al Zaben.

But they said Kuwairi officials told Mr. Zaben a strong anti-Jordanian mood prevailing among officials and ordinary Kuwaitis was blocking an improvement in ties.

They suggested that Amman make pro-Kuwaiti statements to help ease popular tensions and help the emirate determine the fate of hundreds of Kuwaitis it claims are in Iraqi jails since 1990. But Jordan's choice of

Mr. Zaben to test Kuwait's readiness to allow Jordan to reopen the embassy was in itself symbolic.

His father, a former ambassador in Kuwait, was among the few Jordanian dignitaries who publicly condemned Iraq's invasion. He inspected Jordan's embassy in Kuwait - closed since Iraq's 1990 invasion — and paid salaries of local non-diplomatic

Kuwait withdrew its ambassador from Amman but diplomatic relations were not severed. Kuwait's embassy in Amman is open and functioning under a

charge d'affaires. More than 250,000 Jordanians mostly of Palestinian origin, were forced to flee the emirate

because of the war. Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali met United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan in Geneva last month, the first such highlevel contact since the cri-

The meeting was warm and cordial and could eventually lead to an excannge of official visits, officials

LUXOR (AFP) — U.S. actress and U.N. goodwill

Fonda speaks out on abortion row

amhassador Jane Fonda

added her voice to the debate

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Eligrants Jordan 30

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over abortion here Sunday on the eve of a controversial U.N. population conference. Ms. Fonda, in Egypt for the Ms. Forme, in Legistrot me conference, said she agreed with U.S. President Bill Cinton that abortion should be "safe, legal and rare." the Vatican and conservative Muslims have charged that the conference proposals condone abortion, as well as homosexuality and sex our-side marriage. Ms. Fonda added that she and her busband Ted Turner, who owns the U.S. television channel CNN, were "concerned about the issues of population growth" and had helped to prepare the forum. The actress was guest of honour ona specially-organised trip to the southern town of Luxor, organised by Egypt to help revive tourism. She said she felt "extremely safe" on a four-hour visit to town, once the Pharoanie capital of Egypt. Egyptian ministers. South African delegates, Miss Universe and a battery of media people accompanied her on the tour. Egyptian officials hope to capitalise on the nine-day population conference to boost the ailing tourism industry, which has been hard hit by a twoyear campaign of violence by Islamic militants that has kifled more than 400 people. Ms. Fonda visited the pyramids of Cairo earlier Sunday and described her trip as "a dream." As for Miss Universe, Sushmita Sen from India has already visited the pyramids and shrugged off a threat from the underground Jamaa Islamiyya to disrupt the conference by attacking

Rwandan ballet to perform for 1st time since war

KIGALI (AFP) — The new Rwandan National Ballet troupe will this week perform the country's first organised cultural event since the bloody three-month civil war, officials said Monday. But Wednesday's performance of traditional Rwandan music and dance, taking place in Kigali's Franco-Rwandan will be as much as exercise in diplomacy as an artistic endeavour, with the central African nation's new government and France both hoping it will break the ice in frosty bilateral relations. Links between France and the former rebels of the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) that now holds power have been strained over Paris's traditional support for the country's Hutu majority and its

policing until Ang. 22. Alpine iceman 'was Italian'

LONDON (R) - Otzi the 5,300-year-old iceman found in an Alpine glacier three years ago was an Italian, say researchers who studied the moss he used as toilet paper. The iceman was found sticking out of the glacier by two climbers in the Otztaler Alps on the Austro-Italian border. He had been freeze-dried 10,000 feet (3,000 metres) above sea level. Dr. James Dickson, of Glasgow University in Scotland, says he has solved Otzi's nationality after researching the moss found round the body. "Mosses were often used - until recently - for wiping. Peo-ple would grab a clump and use it later. That is what Otzi must have done," Dr. Dickson told the Observer news-paper. "Among all the clothes and belongings that were scattered around Otzi's body were various clumps and traces of moss.

Solvent abuse is 2nd biggest U.K. adolescent killer

LONDON (R) - Solvent abuse is the second biggest killer of British adolescents after road accidents, according to a report published Monday. It kills three people every week, most of them aged between 14 and 16, and 38 per cent of those who die are first-time users, Good Housekeeping magazine said in its survey. Figures cited by the magazine showed that 13 per cent of children had tried sniffing solvents by the time they were 15.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dinar doubles in value after Iraqi-Turkish talks

ERBIL. Iraq (AFP) — The Iraqi dinar bas doubled in value against the dollar on the black market in northern Iraq following hopes that talks between Iraq and Turkey could ease U.N.-imposed sanctions, Kurdish leaders said. It is now 40 dinars to the dollar, compared with 80 three weeks ago, according to the Kurdish finance "minister" Daro Nuri, who said "the dollar has not been so low since last year." The dinar started climbing amid hopes that Ankara and Baghdad could strike an agreement, traders said. The two neighbours began a new round of talks last week on flushing crude oil from a common pipeline closed since the August 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait which led to the U.N. trade and oil ban on Iraq. If the operation goes ahead 27 million barrels of crude oil will be pumped through the pipeline over six months to Turkey, allowing Iraq to receive food and medicines in return for part of the income generated. Turkey has also recently opened the Habur border crossing with Iraq, allowing small-scale trade in products not banned by the U.N. sanctions, mainly food and medicine. The U.N. Security Council is due to review the sanctions next week, also boosting the dinar amid rumours that they would be lifted, money-dealers said. If they were not ended "the dollar will rise again" but not to the same levels as previously, warned Merdiz Mohammad, a money dealer in Erbil, the central city of Iraqi Kurdistan.

Iran seizes more than a tonne of morphine

NICOSIA (R) - Iranian police seized 1,114 kg of morphine hidden in a truck in northeastern fran, the Iranian news agency IRNA said on Monday. The morphine was found packed in small bags and hidden in various parts of the truck when police stopped it on the road from Kashmar to Neyshabur on Sunday, it said. The agency did not say if anyone was arrested.

Bavaria says no compensation for Israeli athletes

MUNICH, Germany (R) — The government of the German state of Bavaria on Monday rejected compensation claims from relatives of Israeli athletes killed in a hostage-taking at the 1972 Munich Olympic games. Members of the ahtletes' families are demanding damages of \$40 million from Bavaria on the basis of documents they believe show that almost all the athletes were shot dead by German police trying to free them. German authorities say they were killed by the Palestinian Black September guerrillas who seized them. Bavaria's interior ministry said in a statement that there were no indication of any "failures susceptible to legal redress" by state or local authorities.

Velayati visits Oman

MUSCAT (AFP) - Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati began an official visit to Oman on Monday, the ONA news agency said. Mr. Velayati arrived in Salah, 1,000 kilometres south of here and was to give Sultan Qaboos a message from President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani during his stay, which was to last several days. Oman has had good relations with Tehran since the 1979 Islamic revolution, even during the Iran-Iraq war when other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council sided with

18 killed in Sierra Leone road crash

FREETOWN (R) - Eighteen people died in Sierra Leone when the trailer they were riding on became detached from the lorry towing it and plunged into a ravine, police said on Monday. The accident happened on Saturday on the Freetown-Bo highway in southern Sierra Leone. Seven survivors were in critical condition at Bo hospital, the

Kyrgyz government resigns

RISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan (AP) — The government of Kyrgyzstan resigned Monday after 168 legislators accused their leaders of "intrigues" and forced a suspensic, of parliament, the ITAR-TASS news agency reported. The resignation signals the second government overhaul in less than a year in the Central Asian nation of 4 million people. Last December, President Askar Akayev fired the government amid allegations the prime minister and other top officials were embezzling Kyrgyzstan's gold reserves. Mr. Akayev issued a decree accepting the resignations and stating that a new government would serve until the next elections later this year, ITAR-TASS said. The current government will continue serving until a new cabinet is

Sri Lankan president hospitalised

COLOMBO (AFP) — Sri Lankan President Dingiri Banda Wijerunga was hospitalised Monday because of high blood pressure, party and hospital sources said. Mr. Wijetunga, 78, was undergoing a series of medical checks, a hospital source told AFP. His press officer Anthony Fernando said Mr. Wijetunga was unable to address legislators of his United National Party (UNP), which lost last month's parliamenary elections, because he was feeling ill from

Turkey, Iran agree to cooperate on terror

ANKARA (R) - A Turkish-Iranian joint security com mission on Monday signed a protocol on cooperation in the fight against terror. Anatolian news agency said. "The most important article (in the protocol) is on the subject of the mutual fight against terror," said Iranian Interior Ministry security head Golam Husseyin Bolvadiyen. "We have agreed for both countries to trade information on this subject." he told Anatolian after two days of talks.

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